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ARAB TIMES

WEST END WATCH
 something new in the watch world...
 Yacoub Yousef Behbehani

NO. 7526 SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 1989 RAMADAN 3, 1409 AH 18 PAGES 150 FLS

Way clear for trial of plundering Marcoses

MANILA, April 7. (AP): A court has cleared the way for the trial of at least 13 civil suits aimed at recovering billions of dollars allegedly stolen by Ferdinand Marcos and his wife Imelda, saying that the exiled former leaders defaulted by ignoring summonses.

In a decision signed yesterday and released today, the anti-graft court also said claims that Marcos was too ill to answer the charges were "incredible" and immaterial. It said Philippine law does not require the presence of defendants at any stage of civil suits.

But in New York's prosecutors said Marcos was too ill at present to stand trial in the US.

The suits in the Philippines are among 40 civil cases filed in July 1987 by the presidential commission on good government against Marcos, Imelda, and some 300 associates to recover up to \$10 billion that they allegedly plundered during the ousted President's 20-year rule.

The suits claim a total of \$112 billion in damages, alleging that stealing of the funds damaged the nation because the funds were not invested in important facilities and job-generating businesses. They also claim moral damages for anguish and fright resulting from Marcos' acts.

Yesterday's ruling does not mean the Marcoses have lost the cases, but only that trial can proceed even if the Marcoses are not represented by attorneys during the proceedings.

Imelda and some associates will also face racketeering charges in New York without Marcos, after prosecutors conceded he was too ill presently to stand trial.

President Corason Aquino today appointed Ceferino Follosco as the new Secretary of Science and Technology to replace Antonio Arizabal who was fired for alleged inefficiency. Aquino also accepted the resignation of Tourism Secretary Jose Antonio Gonzales. (UPI).

Saudis refute poison gas story

RIYADH, April 7. (KUNA): Saudi Arabia has strongly denied that it has the capability to produce chemical weapons and asserted it firmly abides by the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

An authorised Saudi source, in a statement carried by the Saudi Press Agency last night, refuted a report by the Chicago Tribune, published in the US on Wednesday that the kingdom could be one of those countries which acquired the means to produce such lethal arms.

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آج کے اردو صفحات میں
 ○ حیدر آباد کے نئی
 فسادات میں دس افراد ہلاک
 ○ ایران نے فوج کا بیانیہ ختم
 کر دیا



A Palestinian with his hands bound shouts from a bus window on his release from prison. (Reuters wirephoto)

Israelis fire at Al Aqsa demo

Bush gives qualified backing to Shamir

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, April 7. (Agencies): Fighting erupted at the Al Aqsa Mosque on Jerusalem's Temple Mount today when hundreds of Palestinian demonstrators stoned police, eyewitnesses said.

Police fired tear-gas and rubber bullets at the demonstrators and live ammunition into the air to disperse the chanting protesters after prayers by some 15,000 worshippers on the first Friday of Ramadan.

Demonstrators stoned a police station and hit several journalists. First reports said police arrested between 20 and 30 Arabs in disturbances lasting three-quarters of an hour.

Mideast aid 'offer'

Japan seeks role in peace process

By Diane Diaz
 Arab Times staff

IN keeping with its efforts to become more politically active, Japan says it not only supports an international conference on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, but that it wants to participate in such a forum.

If held under the auspices of the United Nations, the conference would involve the permanent members of the UN Security Council and the parties concerned in the conflict.

However, Japan is making it clear that it is ready to step up its role in the Middle East peace process and would welcome an invitation to be part of an international negotiating team.

"If we are requested by the parties concerned, we would be very happy to participate and collaborate," said Yasukuni Enoki, director of the Middle East Affairs Department in Japan's Foreign Ministry. Enoki said Japan is particularly interested in taking part in an international conference that would come after direct negotiations between the PLO and Israel.

Once the two parties come up with a solution to the Palestinian issue, an "exit" conference would be the forum for endorsing the result, he said.

At that stage, he said, Japan feels it has a legitimate place because the country is prepared to sink huge sums into assistance programmes for the rebuilding of a nation.

Enoki spoke to the Arab Times yesterday in an hour-long interview.

His overnight stop in Kuwait was part of a two-week tour in the region which focused on bringing Japan into the spotlight as a player in the Middle East peace process.

Japan's new approach to involving itself in the Mideast peace process, is the result of

(Continued on Page 2 Col 8)

Saudi agreement needed

Iran may send pilgrims

NICOSIA, April 7. (Reuters): A senior Iranian official said on Wednesday that Tehran would send pilgrims to Makkah for haj in July if the Saudi government agreed.

The Iranian news agency IRNA quoted Deputy Speaker of Parliament Mehdi Karrubi as saying the Saudi government would have to announce its readiness to accept Iranian pilgrims "within the next few days."

More than 400 people died in riots in Makkah during an Iranian demonstration in July 1987 led by Karrubi, who was the personal representative of Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Khomeini at the ceremonies.

An Israel Radio reporter on the scene, his voice choking with tear-gas, said in a live broadcast that clashes broke out after a policeman fired a single shot in the air to disperse a cluster of youths throwing stones and tearing an Israeli flag.

Hundreds of Palestinians joined the fighting, hurling stones at police and reporters on the roof of a police station which overlooks the Haram Al Sharif (noble sanctuary) esplanade, site of Al Aqsa and the Dome of the Rock Mosques.

At least one cameraman was injured. Demonstrators raised banned Palestinian flags.

It was the most serious unrest at the sensitive holy place for more than a year.

The clashes came as Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was in Washington to present proposals for elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip to President Bush.

Bush gave qualified support yesterday to Shamir's idea for elections among Palestinians on the West Bank and Gaza, and emphasised that Israel eventually must give up the occupied lands.

Bush said he told Shamir, "We do not support an independent Palestinian state, nor Israeli sovereignty over or permanent occupation of the West Bank and Gaza."

Saudis prepared for Arab summit

RIYADH, April 7. (KUNA): King Fahd has said Saudi Arabia is prepared to host the next ordinary Arab summit.

King Fahd said on Wednesday his country was consulting other Arab states for the convening of the summit in Riyadh.

"Consultations are under way with Arab leaders to set a date for the convening of the summit," the official Saudi Press Agency quoted him as saying.

Kuwaitis 28 per cent

KUWAITIS form only 28 per cent of the country's population, according to the latest figures. Dr Abdul Al Awadi, Undersecretary at the Ministry of Planning has said.

See Kuwaiti population Page 4

Call for dialogue Fragile truce holds in Beirut

BEIRUT, April 7. (Agencies): A fragile ceasefire between Syrian and Christian gunmen in and around Beirut held today with only one violation reported, police said.

A police spokesman said Syrian gunmen fired eight howitzer shells at the 310-square-mile (800-square-kilometre) Christian enclave at dawn.

The 130-millimetre shells slammed into the sand beach near the Christian port of Jounieh at 3.30 am (0130 GMT), said the spokesman who cannot be named in line with police rules.

He said Christian gunmen "did not respond to the Syrian fire."

The truce, called by the Arab League, suffered a three-hour major violation around noon (1000 GMT) yesterday. Christian and Syrian gunmen duelled with mortars and rockets, wounding 15 people and sending panicky residents back to underground shelters.

Later in the day, shells fell at random in Muslim and Christian residential districts.

By police count, the casualty toll from the month-old confrontation between Major General Michel Aoun's Christian Army units and an alliance of Syrian and Druze forces stood at 177 people killed and 591 wounded.

"It's a state of no total war and no total peace, until further notice," the police spokesman said.

Independent sources were unable to say who broke the ceasefire, but Aoun, commander of the Christian half of the Lebanese Army, blamed Syria for resuming the fighting.

In a cable addressed to Kuwaiti Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed, head of a six-man Arab League mediation committee which called for the truce, Aoun charged the "Syrians and their collaborators violated the truce."

In another message addressed to Lebanese Muslims, Aoun called for an immediate national dialogue to settle the bloody conflict.

"All obstacles should be eliminated so we could meet and hold a frank, free national dialogue," Aoun said. "Then we should start the process of liberating our land and people from all foreign occupation."

Sheikh Sabah returned to Kuwait yesterday after holding talks on the Lebanese crisis in Damascus.

A Muslim, who requested anonymity, described Aoun's call as a manoeuvre aimed at disrupting the work of the Arab League committee that is attempting to solve the Lebanese conflict through political reforms.

"There is no dialogue with Aoun on the Christian leaders if it is not based on reforming our political system," the Muslim source said.

A 122-millimetre missile fired by Syrian gunners scored a direct hit on the Greek Orthodox St. Nicholas church in East Beirut's Ashrafieh district yesterday, destroying the furniture.

The Christians, according to the police spokesman, kept the peace for nearly three hours after the Syrians began the bombardment yesterday.

Then West Beirut was shelled from emplacements in East Beirut, but it could not be confirmed if the Army or the militia were firing.



Al Shara (right) seeing off Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmed at Damascus airport. (Reuters wirephoto)

India to charge 2 Sikhs

NEW DELHI, April 7. (Agencies): Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's government is expected to charge at least two Sikhs today in connection with the 1984 murder of his mother and predecessor, Indira, government sources said yesterday.

The sources said two men would be charged with conspiring to murder Indira Gandhi, as well as sedition and waging war against the nation. The number of accused could eventually rise to five, they added.

Indira's murder in 1984 by two Sikh bodyguards brought Rajiv to power and helped him win general elections two months later on a wave of sympathy.

Two Sikhs were hanged in January for the assassination, carried out in revenge for Indira's unleashing of the Army against the Golden Temple, Sikhdom's holiest shrine in the city of Amritsar in Punjab, to root out Sikh separatists.

But the nation has been rocked by suggestions in a report by a



Police grab a protester by the throat during a demonstration against the lawyer who defended the assassins of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in New Delhi. (Reuters wirephoto)

commission of inquiry that Indira's closest aide, Rajinder Kumar Dhawan, was a possible suspect in her murder.

Rajiv sacked Dhawan after his mother's murder but two months ago unexpectedly brought him back to the inner circle of power.

At least 150 people have been injured in fresh separatist

violence in the north Indian city of Srinagar, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said yesterday.

Meanwhile, a 10-day violence-marred strike called by tribal militants demanding a separate state in northeast Assam has claimed at least 16 lives and injured 35 people, news reports said yesterday.

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Ten dead in Sind ethnic riots

KARACHI, April 7. (Reuters): At least 10 people were killed and 50 wounded in ethnic riots in Hyderabad yesterday, and Pakistani authorities sent in troops to enforce a curfew.

Hospital doctors said the death toll from savage fighting between native Sindhis and mohajir immigrants could rise as at least six of the wounded were in serious condition.

Eyewitnesses said by telephone from the southern city the disturbances began after students attacked a policeman beating another student outside an

examination hall in the city centre.

"It took an ethnic turn immediately and the whole city came under the grip of rioting, stabbing, looting and arson," a Hyderabad politician told reporters.

After the curfew was announced, troops with orders to shoot on sight patrolled the city in trucks. Shopkeepers closed their shops and rushed home to escape sniper fire on the streets, the witnesses said.

One of the 10 confirmed dead was a doctor, colleagues at a government hospital said.

Bid to halt carnage in Namibia as death toll up

WINDHOEK, April 7. (Reuters): The death toll in the Namibian bush war between South African-backed security forces and nationalist guerrillas rose sharply after two fierce clashes near the Angolan border, police said today.

Seventy-three guerrillas of the South Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) were killed on Thursday, 34 of them in the biggest clash in a week of fighting, a police spokesman said.

A total of 252 nationalists, 24 security policemen and two soldiers have now been killed in bush skirmishes in defiance of a UN-supervised peace plan, he added.

The reports of fresh clashes came as South African Foreign Minister P. W. Botha flew to the Namibian capital to try to find a diplomatic end to the fighting threatening to wreck the plan for independence for the territory set in motion on April 1.

Police reported on Thursday that the fighting had spread into the northwest region of Kaoko-land where guerrillas had been sighted with rocket launchers and heat-seeking anti-aircraft missiles.

Battles raged despite a South African offer of safe conduct for the SWAPO guerrillas back to Angola if they lay down their arms before tomorrow. Pretoria says it will hunt down the guerrillas who have waged a bush war for 23 years if they ignore the ultimatum.

Leaders of the SWAPO called today for the ouster of the top United Nations representative to Namibia and claimed that UN officials have been manipulated by the South Africans.

Botha to retire later this year

JOHANNESBURG, April 7. (AP): President P.W. Botha, South Africa's strong-willed leader since 1978, yesterday signalled his intention to retire after elections to be held by early September. His own party had made clear it wanted a new president.

Botha, whose hold on power loosened after he suffered a stroke in January, told Parliament that an early general election will be held on an unspecified date within the next five months.



Gorbachev (left) looks at his watch as Thatcher talks to the press outside No. 10 Downing Street. Thatcher's husband Denis is standing behind the prime minister. (Reuters wirephoto)

Gorbachev visits Britain

Soviets to halt uranium output

LONDON, April 7. (Reuters): Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev said today his country will stop producing uranium used to make nuclear weapons.

He made the announcement in a speech at London's Guildhall near the end of his 40-hour visit to Britain.

"I take the opportunity to inform you of our decision, taken recently, to cease production of this year of enriched weapon-grade uranium," he said.

Gorbachev with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher sitting alongside, said this would be done by shutting down two nuclear reactors in 1989 and 1990, which will not be replaced.

"This is yet another major step towards the wrapping up of production of fissionable materials for use in nuclear weapons," he declared.

The announcement was the only major revelation in Gorbachev's 25-minute speech, in which he had been expected to explain his concept of a common European home.

But he made no reference to this topic, which has become a major theme of Soviet foreign policy over the past year.

After the address, broadcast live throughout Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union, Gorbachev and his wife, Raisa, visited Queen Elizabeth II at Windsor Castle.

The 58-year-old Soviet leader, the first Kremlin chief to be invited to speak in the historic centre of London's financial district, used his address to deliver an implicit appeal to the United States to resume negotiations on cutting strategic nuclear weapons.

Ban on religious activity lifted

MOSCOW, April 7. (Reuters): The Soviet government has lifted bans on religious activity from charity work to bell-ringing as hundreds of new churches and mosques open across the country in an atmosphere of greater tolerance.

The state council of religious affairs has with one stroke cancelled all its edicts since the anti-religion campaigns of the 1960s, the weekly Moscow News reported this week.

In addition, the council has registered 1,610 new religious congregations in the past year — compared with 104 the previous year — including Russian Orthodox, Catholic, Muslim and Pentecostal communities, the newspaper said.

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The administration of President George Bush, which took office in January, has delayed the resumption of strategic arms (START) talks in Geneva while it reviews its entire foreign policy.

Gorbachev said START was for Moscow "at the top of the agenda of our relations with the United States."

He added: "We are ready to resume negotiations at any time."

In talks with Thatcher yesterday, he expressed concern at the delay in START, which under

the previous administration of Reagan had moved close to an agreement to halve the two superpowers' strategic arsenals.

Gorbachev, who rejects the Western argument that the Soviet Union and its East European allies have no overwhelming military superiority in Europe, also called for East-West talks on naval forces.

"The time has come to start negotiations on reducing the naval forces of the Soviet Union and the United States, of the Warsaw Pact and NATO," he said.

Naval forces are excluded from East-West talks which opened in Vienna last month on reducing non-nuclear forces throughout Europe.

Bingo Day 3

35 54 73 36

Benazir 'curbs intelligence'

NEW DELHI, April 7. (Reuters): Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has curbed the role of Pakistan's military intelligence in arming and supporting Afghan and Indian rebels, an Indian minister said yesterday.

India, has complained bitterly in the past that Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) aided

Sikh and Kashmiri militants. But deputy Home Minister P. J. Kurian told Parliament Benazir had severely curtailed its activities since taking power last December after 11 years of military rule.

"There is a whole lot of evidence that the ISI's power and sphere of action in encouraging

terrorism in India and Afghanistan have been severely curtailed since democracy returned to Pakistan," Chidambaram was quoted as saying by Indian news agencies.

Chidambaram added that ISI links to Sikh militants fighting for an independent homeland in

the north Indian state of Punjab and rebels wanting to join Indian-held Kashmir to Pakistan had not ceased.

"There is clear evidence that the ISI is supporting the rebel mujahedeen in Afghanistan and has links with terrorists in Punjab and the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front," he said.

Tamil Tigers kill 24 Indian soldiers

Sri Lanka frees political prisoners

COLOMBO, April 7. (AP): Tamil militants yesterday blew up a truck carrying Indian troops in northern Sri Lanka, killing at least 18 soldiers, military officials said. Six more soldiers were killed later in a gun battle with the fleeing guerrillas, residents said.

Militants using remote-controlled devices detonated explosives buried in the road as the truck passed over it at Mankulam village, 42 kilometers (26 miles) north of Vavuniya town, the officials said. At least five soldiers were injured, they said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

An Indian high commission (embassy) official in Colombo said he was unaware of the killings.

Indian troops, searching for the guerrillas, were ambushed by the militants and six soldiers were killed in the ensuing gun battle at the nearby Maharambakkulam village, said residents in Vavuniya town, 217 kilometers (135 miles) north of Colombo.

The militants, believed to be members of the dominant Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam group, carried away 15 rifles and a light machine gun after blowing up the truck, the officials said.

India deployed nearly 50,000 troops after Tamil militants



Some of the 13 Tamil guerrillas freed on Thursday walking out of a prison. (Reuters wirephoto)

spurned an India-sponsored peace accord, signed in July, 1987 aimed at ending a Tamil insurgency in the Northern and Eastern provinces.

At least 800 Indian soldiers have been killed in the operations against the rebels, who refused to surrender their arms saying the accord did not meet enough of their demands for self rule.

The latest violence came barely 24 hours after the government announced a unilateral

one-week ceasefire, beginning Tuesday.

The government yesterday also released 13 political prisoners as part of a peace proposal offered to Tamils and Sinhalese militants.

After being pardoned by President Ranasinghe Premadasa, the prisoners walked out of a maximum security prison, about five kilometers (three miles) east of Colombo.

Poland to lift ban on Solidarity immediately

WARSAW, April 7. (AP): Parliament plans to meet today to enact measures on trade union freedoms, economic reforms and political changes, including creation of the first freely elected legislative body in the East bloc.

A government minister said yesterday the seven-year ban on Solidarity would be lifted immediately, and Lech Walesa, leader of the free trade union federation, urged supporters to put their "political victory" into action by organizing nationwide.

"The process of legislation of Solidarity should be completed between April 15 and April 20," said Sports Minister Aleksander Kwasniewski, a chief negotiator for the communist government in two months of talks with opposition negotiators. Those talks concluded on Wednesday in a broad accord.

Kwasniewski said the Sejm, or Parliament, would meet today to enact the agreements.

The agreement allows Solidarity to organize on a national, regional and local level after parliament makes the necessary changes in the Labour Law to permit more than one legal trade union at a workplace.

Kosovo was rocked last week by bloody clashes between ethnic Albanians and security forces that left at least 24 dead, including two policemen, and 200 injured.

Albanians, who make up about 85 per cent of Kosovo's population, took to the streets in protest against constitutional changes which they say limit the province's autonomy.

Earlier, the US ambassador visited Avril and told him the United States backed his attempt to quell the military uprising that began with a failed coup on Sunday, US officials said.

Soldiers of the Presidential Guard in an armoured car chased a truck carrying members of the elite Leopards commando unit on Delmas road, across town from the presidential

Iran-Contra trial I followed orders, North tells court

WASHINGTON, April 7. (AP): Oliver North, taking the stand for the first time in his Iran-Contra trial, has testified he merely followed orders during the time the US government secretly sold arms to Iran and diverted funds to Nicaraguan rebels.

At one point during his testimony yesterday, the ex-White House aide was asked by his attorney if then-President Reagan had designated him to help the Nicaraguan rebels, also known as Contras.

But North was stopped before he could answer the question when prosecution lawyers objected and the judge sustained the objection.

Asked who told him to give secret assistance to the rebels, North named former National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane, McFarlane's then-deputy, John Poindexter and the late CIA director William Casey.

Earlier yesterday, North's lawyers read the jury a lengthy statement that said George Bush had played a role as intermediary in Reagan's secret effort to aid the Nicaraguan rebels after Congress banned official US help.

The jury heard that Bush, then vice-president, personally told the Honduran President in 1985 that extra aid was being funnelled to his country. In earlier testimony, McFarlane had said that the aid was part of a secret agreement calling for Honduras to help the Contras.

At the White House, press secretary Martin Fitzwater said, "we can't say anything. It would become a part of the case."

North faces 12 felony charges including lying or misleading Congress and then-attorney general Edwin Meese III about his efforts to help the Contras.

Throughout the day, the mutinous Leopards had been riding up and down the road, shooting in the air. The witness said the Leopards who were shot had stolen the truck shortly after curfew began at 7 pm (2300 GMT) and ran into the house when they saw the Presidential Guards approaching.

After the Leopards were killed, other Leopards attacked the armoured car with bazookas near the office of the state television, the witness said. The outcome of the battle was not known, but the TV stopped broadcasting shortly thereafter.

Belgrade, April 7. (AP): A police report quoted in the official press yesterday speculated that some ethnic Albanians could stage "guerrilla warfare" against federal authorities in the troubled province of Kosovo.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

12 hurt in stampede

DHAKA, April 7. (Reuters): At least twelve people were injured in a stampede from a political rally in northern Bangladesh yesterday after opponents charged in throwing homemade bombs and rocks, police and witnesses said.

They said thousands of people were waiting to listen to retired Colonel Farook Reeshman, leader of the opposition Freedom Party, when their opponents stormed the rally in Sirajganj district.

Burned to death

TAIPEI, April 7. (AP): A dissident publisher accused of printing seditious articles burned to death in his office today after firebombs he hurled at police sparked a 90-minute blaze in the building, police said.

Taipei police chief Wang Chun said Cheng Nan-Rong, publisher of opposition Freedom Era magazine, tossed the firebombs from his third-floor office at riot police who had come to arrest him for printing articles that advocated an independent Taiwan.

Robert Shaw dies

WASHINGTON, April 7. (AP): Retired Marine Corps Brig. Gen. Samuel Robert Shaw, an adviser during the Cuban missile crisis and the Vietnam war, has died at a hospital in Fort Belvoir, Hewas 78.

Shaw died April 4 at Dewitt Army hospital in suburban area after suffering a heart attack.

Bus-lorry crash

BURGOS, Spain, April 7. (Reuters): Eight people were killed and eight injured when a bus taking farmers to a fair collided head-on with a lorry on a stretch of road dubbed "the curve of death" near this northern town today, police said.

Third World debt

WASHINGTON, April 7. (AP): Third World debt is imposing its heaviest burden on millions of children whose countries are cutting social programmes to keep up payments to banks in wealthy countries, actress Audrey Hepburn told Congress yesterday.

Japan seeks role in ...

(Continued from Page 1) Prime Minister Takeshita's so-called "funeral diplomacy" and Japan's new "international co-operation initiative."

At the time of Emperor Hirohito's funeral, the prime minister met with the heads of state of Jordan and Egypt and with a minister of the Israeli government.

According to Enoki, Takeshita used the same wording with each of them, as he stated Japan's position on the Palestinian conflict.

First, he made it clear that Japan supports an international peace conference. Second, he said the PLO should participate in the peace process, including attendance at an international conference. And last, he stated that Japan thinks Israel should stop trying to crush intifada and give up its occupation of all Arab territories.

Alaska oil spill 'unmanageable'

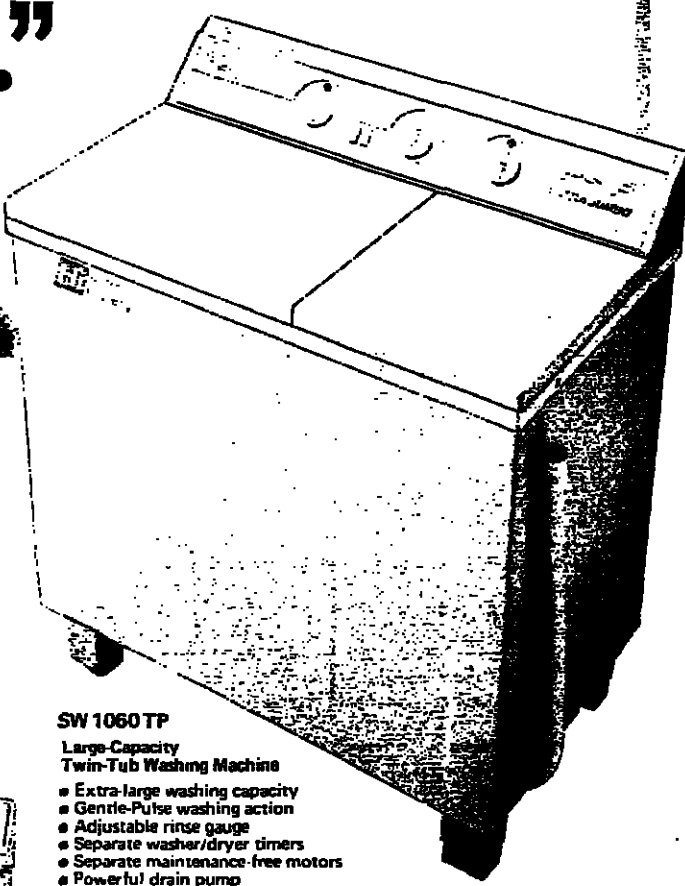
VALDEZ, Alaska, April 7. (AP): The nation's worst oil spill declared "unmanageable" yesterday, penetrated a national park as state officials pushed the Coast Guard to take over the cleanup from Exxon.

On the East Coast, the captain of the Exxon tanker that leaked the oil was freed yesterday after his bail was reduced from \$1 million to \$25,000. The judge said the former skipper, Joseph Hazelwood, who lives in the New York area, was unlikely to flee.

Exxon oil company chairman L.G. Rawl appears before a committee investigating the spill. (Reuters wirephoto)

"If it's gentle on me, it must be gentle on your clothes."

That's all the teddy bear can say. It's no wonder, because the washing machine is from Sanyo.



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Cold fusion: questions more than answers

AMSTERDAM, April 7. (Reuters) — A prestigious scientific magazine on Thursday published two scientists' first detailed account of the "cold fusion" experiment which they say could provide a key to low-cost nuclear energy.

Martin Fleischmann and Stanley Pons stunned scientists last month by saying they had achieved nuclear fusion at room temperature using ordinary laboratory equipment.

In their eight-page article for the *Journal of Electroanalytical Chemistry and Interfacial Electrochemistry*, they wrote: "We realise that the results reported here raise more questions than they provide answers."

The said: the most surprising feature of their experiment was that the bulk of the resultant energy was due to a hitherto unknown nuclear process or processes.

The journal released early copies of its April 10 issue with the report by Fleischmann, of Britain's Southampton University, and Pons, head of the University of Utah's chemistry department.

They conducted their experiment using various sizes of palladium rods and plates in heavy water at 300 degrees Kelvin (27 degrees Centigrade or 81 degrees Fahrenheit).

"We urge the use of extreme caution in such experiments. A possible interpretation... is in terms of ignition," they wrote.

Their results showed that the larger the rod of palladium, the more energy was generated. The largest rod was 2.5 cm (one inch) long with a diameter of 0.4 cm (one-sixth of an inch).

Until now nuclear fusion has been achieved only at a temperature close to that of the sun or in atom bombs.

Twenty scientists from the Dutch Foundation for the Fundamental Research of Matter said after reading the article that it contained important information for basic research but was unlikely to provide a quick, cheap source of energy.

They criticised the two for failing to carry out several basic checks in the experiments.

Child s...exponents get damned: message

MANILA, April 7. (Reuters) — An Austrian convicted of causing the death of his 11-year-old sex partner has been sentenced to life imprisonment by a Philippine court.

Judge Alicia Santos on Wednesday also found 35-year-old Heinrich Stefan Ritter guilty of statutory rape and ordered him

to pay 60,000 pesos (\$2,850) compensation to the girl's relatives.

Ritter, protesting his innocence, said he was a victim of mistaken identity and would appeal to President Corason Aquino.

Santos said she hoped the case would send a "stern warning to

paedophiles now roaming the country."

Ritter was accused of having sex with 11-year-old Rosario Baluyut in a hotel room in October 1986 in Olongapo city, north-west of Manila.

The prosecution alleged the girl died of an infection caused by the tip of a vibrator which had

broken off inside her body. Baluyut died on May 17, 1987 after surgery to remove the tip.

Ritter, a former medical student, said US military authorities framed him to cover up the involvement of an American serviceman.

In a 64-page verdict, Santos

said although Ritter may not have intended to kill the girl, "he must answer for the consequences of his act."

Olongapo Mayor Richard Gordon said the court decision should serve as a "strong message that child exploitation is a heinous crime that must be totally stopped."



In hold

The Duchess of York wears her long hair tucked into a fine mesh hat to comply with hygiene regulations during a visit to a chocolate factory at Bourneville, Birmingham. (Reuters wirephoto)

Row over long working hours in UK

No cure for the doctor

CAMBRIDGE, England, April 7. (Reuters) — "Seven hours on duty, and a day and a half to go," says Dr Elliot Goodman after leaving a casualty ward where he helped other doctors and nurses fighting to revive an elderly man with heart failure.

"I got to bed last night, but now I'm on call till Monday morning," says Goodman. "Who knows what tonight will bring?"

Controversy is raging in Britain over the hours being worked by junior doctors, with the Conservative government seeking to reform the country's National Health System and critics saying it is not being sufficiently funded.

The junior doctors, mostly in their 20s, say the hours they work can be so arduous that they are putting patients at risk. Long hours are traditional for juniors but advances in medical technology have made the jobs more complex and stress-ridden.

For 24 hours over a recent weekend a Reuters reporter shadowed surgical houseman Goodman, 23, whose pockets were bulging with medical handbooks and stethoscope, as he chased around Addenbrookes' Hospital in this university town 70 miles (110 km) north of London.

Several of Goodman's fellow doctors picketed outside hospitals to campaign for shorter hours earlier this year. They say chronic lack of sleep from an average 86-hour week increases their chances of making serious mistakes.

Goodman could be bleeped at any time from eight am on Saturday until eight am on Monday.

Unshaven, wearing green surgical pyjamas which he said were the best thing if he had to jump out of bed in a hurry, he checked recent admissions and chased blood tests.

Two urgent surgical cases coincided in the afternoon. An old man was brought in vomiting blood. While Goodman helped prepare him for theatre, the heart failure case arrived, and within minutes a "crash team" (cardiac arrest team) of young doctors

rushed in from all over the hospital.

Goodman, qualified for just one month, was the most junior doctor present.

Later, Goodman continued his routine ward duties. So far, he had not stopped to eat lunch, but munched crisps (potato chips) on his way round the building, despite a colleague's remark that doctors had been known to faint from hunger while on duty.

At nine pm Goodman almost fell asleep while talking to a patient's relatives. He then had to comfort a distressed 92-year-old terminal cancer.

Midnight: A family doctor called. Another patient would be here in an hour. No hopes of bed for Goodman until 2.30.

"It's a fallacy that long hours are necessary for experience," one doctor said. "The only experience you gain is how to take short cuts because you want to go to bed."

2 am: Goodman went to his room for a rest.

Bleep a new patient was due to arrive in an hour. Goodman borrowed a toaster to perk up some stale bread, the only food in his room.

3.30: At the next bleep, saying the patient had arrived, Goodman was in the bath.

3.34: Another case. Goodman hurried back to the main hospital along a windy, subterranean tunnel.

Watching Goodman examine the two patients, a nurse observed that at this time of night, routine tasks seemed more tricky than usual.

Mistakes are easily made in the early hours, doctors say. One said he once failed to read an electro-cardiogram correctly, and did not detect a heart beating too fast and liable to stop. In this case the error was spotted in time.

7 am: The sky outside was turning an inky blue. Nurses flocked in for the morning shift as Goodman headed for his room. He set the alarm for one hour's sleep, so he could send blood tests to the haematology lab by 9.30. He overslept until 9.25.

Mars, susceptible to atmospheric erosion, lost thick atmosphere

WASHINGTON, April 7. (UPI) — New calculations show Mars may have been stripped of a thick atmosphere that allowed water to flow over the now-desolate planet because it was bombarded by comets or asteroids, scientists reported.

Mars, the planet that is fourth closest to the sun, currently has a

very thin atmosphere with a surface pressure less than one-hundredth of earth's. But geological forms on the Red Planet suggest it once had atmospheric pressure great enough for water to run over its surface.

In the past, astronomers have advanced several theories about how Mars might have lost much

of its atmosphere, but "none of these proposals has gained general acceptance," said H.J. Melosh and A.M. Vickery of the University of Arizona.

In a study published in the *British Journal Nature*, the researchers presented computer calculations they said showed that collisions with large, fast-

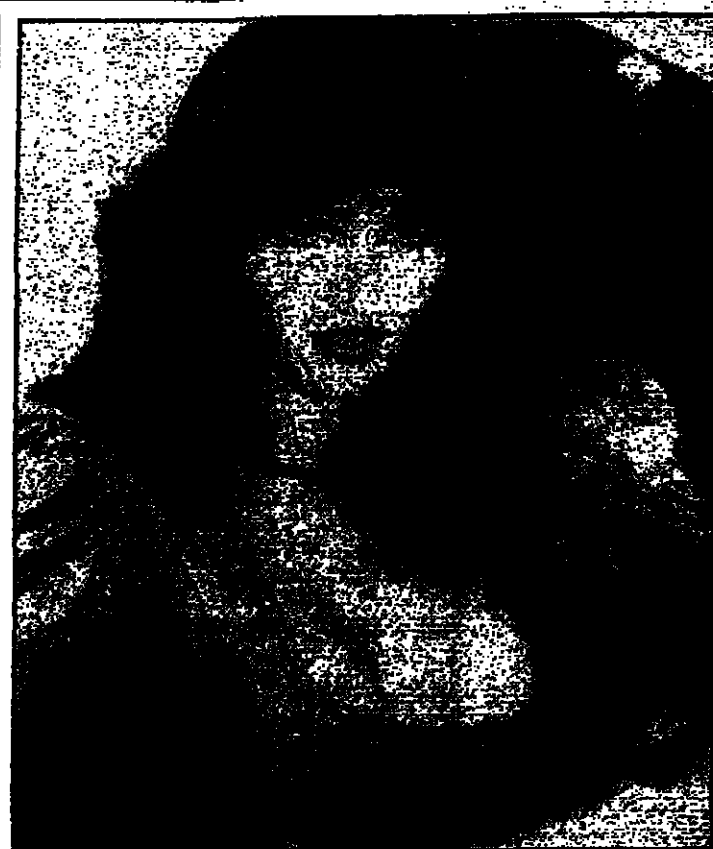
moving bodies, such as comets, may have triggered Mars' atmospheric loss.

Previous calculations had shown that the solid material ejected from the crater, created when a comet or asteroid hits a planet, would only have a slight effect on atmospheric density.

While agreeing with those

assessments, the Arizona team went a step further and looked at the impact of massive vapour clouds generated by some crashes.

"We show here that the vapour plume created by high-speed impacts is extremely effective in ejecting atmospheric gases," Melosh and Vickery wrote.



Transvestite

File photo of Brazil's best known transvestite, Luiz Roberto Moreira, a man whose looks rival that of top female models.

No benefit in weight going up in smokes

Unhealthy way

NEW YORK, April 7. (Reuters) — Nicotine causes the body to burn more calories but the dangers of smoking are far greater than the benefit from any possible weight loss, a new study has found.

The study, published in yesterday's edition of the *New England Journal of Medicine*, is the first to examine the effects of nicotine on the body's metabolic rate during ordinary daily activity, said Kenneth Perkins at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, the lead author.

Only men were studied. The study follows up on an unpublished survey by Perkins' group showing nicotine alone, isolated from cigarette smoke, produces a small but significant increase in the resting metabolic rate.

Smokers usually weigh five to

10 pounds (2.3 to 4.5 kg) less than nonsmokers of comparable age and height, and smokers who quit usually gain a similar amount of weight, studies have shown.

But Perkins and other experts said the excess calories burned due to nicotine do not offset the dangers of smoking.

"Women who smoke to maintain their weight are trading their health for a very small benefit. It is such an unhealthy way to control weight," said Nancy Rigotti, associate director of the institute for smoking behaviour and policy at Harvard University.

Many smokers, especially women, are reluctant to stop because of concern about weight gain, said Rigotti, who wrote an editorial accompanying the study.

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Seminar tackles narcotics problem

THE seminar on drugs titled "Drugs — Prevention and Treatment" recently organised by Kuwait University's Community Service and Continued Education Centre concluded Thursday, a local daily reported.

Several recommendations emanated from the seminar, including 11 research papers which covered social, criminal and medical aspects of the drug problem.

Dr Jalaluddin Ghazawi from Kuwait University, Faculty of Arts called for the establishment of a special centre for addicts in addition to drawing up effective programmes designed to eradicate the drug menace. He said: "A specific philosophy encompassing all aspects of the drug problem should be drawn up."

Emotional problems

He went on to say that although scientifically no connection had so far been established between emotional problems and drug addiction, relevant statistics indicate that most addicts do suffer from emotional problems.

Ghazawi called for exerting necessary efforts aimed at rehabilitating addicts socially and psychologically.

Speaking at the conclusion of the seminar, Dr Mohammed Al Sarawi, assistant rector for community service affairs and the co-ordinator thanked the participants for their contributions and presence.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ramadan cables

KUWAIT, April 7. (KUNA): HH the Amir exchanged cables of congratulations with kings and presidents of Arab and Islamic countries on the occasion of the holy month of Ramadan, the Muslim month of fasting.

His Highness the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah has also exchanged cables of congratulations with kings and heads of state of Arab and Islamic countries on the occasion of Ramadan.

HH also received a number of congratulatory cables from Arab and Islamic personalities and citizens and reciprocated.

Whisky trading

DETECTIVES of Jahra governorate have arrested a Kuwaiti man on charges of smuggling and trading in whisky.

The accused, identified as Mohammad A. was caught red-handed selling a case of the contraband. A subsequent search of his residence in the Rumailhiya area revealed a further 29 cases.

The suspect and the contraband have been referred to investigation authorities.

Organ donation

THE Kuwait Organ Transplant Society is organising a public campaign to highlight the human aspects of organ donation after one's death.

Special manuals, donation forms and cards have been circulated for donors wishing to contribute to the life-saving cause.

Sources at the society said that a total of 300 patients are presently registered in Kuwait with renal failure, and that the number is increasing by 50 patients annually.

Since 1988 a total of 400 transplant operations have been performed at a success rate of 95 per cent, sources said.

Paediatrics centre

ACCUSATIONS that Kuwait Medicine Industries Company has been responsible for the death of a child at a paediatrics centre has been categorically denied by a senior ranking medical official.

Dr Nael Al Naqib, Under-secretary at the Ministry of Public Health expressed surprise at the accusations saying the death was caused by an overdose and had no reflection on the quality of the products manufactured by the company.

Investigations by the ministry into the mishap were instituted and the staff responsible have been appropriately dealt with, he added.

Overtime work

THE Criminal Laboratories of Kuwait's Ministry of Interior will work an extra daily six hours on overtime basis according to a circular issued by Major General Yusuf Bader Al Khorafi, under-secretary at the ministry.

On Fridays and official holidays, these laboratories will remain open for eight hours, the circular added.

Kuwaitis only 28pc of the population

Reliance on state to change

KUWAITIS should shoulder their responsibilities towards developing their country as the government has provided them with all incentives, a senior Kuwaiti official said.

Speaking at the second discussion on state development, Dr Abdul Wahab Al Awadi, Under-secretary at the Ministry of Planning said that Kuwaitis represent only 28 per cent of the country's population. Translated into figures, Kuwaitis accounted for 532,000 while expatriates numbered 1,320,000.

Explaining the large difference in comparison to figures reported in past population census, Awadi said that these figures were arrived at after the problem of persons without nationality was solved. He went on to state that previously these stateless persons had been counted along with the Kuwaiti population.

Elucidating, he said that Kuwaitis form only 14 per cent of the country's workforce, while they are only 1.6 per cent in the private sector. According to previous official statistics,

based upon the latest census in 1985, Kuwaitis formed about 40 per cent of Kuwait's population and about 20 per cent of the workforce.

Change

"It has now become imperative to change the Kuwaiti view towards life after many years of dependence on the government, which killed the work spirit, creativity and initiative," Awadi said and added that the discussion henceforth must be centred on how to

change the thinking of the Kuwaiti population.

Kuwait still needs the services of expatriates, the official said, but "we have to be selective" on the basis of productivity. The policy of selection of expatriates is a government policy and will look into every aspect of balancing the workforce and achieving a demographic equilibrium. The policy is based on providing Kuwaitis with a greater role in development, Awadi said.

Awadi emphasised that "Kuwaitisation of jobs is not the

solution". He said that it is one of the easiest to achieve, but the problem lies in the private sector.

It is thus necessary to link the policy of aid and support in the future with the process of building and developing Kuwaiti men and women. The minister stressed that the era of easy earning must end and that the local population must work hard to obtain their living requirements.

Also speaking at the discussion, Dr Fahed Al Rashed, managing director of the Kuwait Investment Authority called for

a new economic strategy in the country.

Present features of the current economic situation will lead to a gradual deterioration in the economic structure and a continuing drop in the standard of living, the official said.

The future expectations indicate that the per capita share of oil revenues will decline below KD3,500 while the per capita share in public expenditure will cross KD5,000 by the end of this century, Rashed said.

Salaries have been reduced

Private employees 'eating humble pie'

SALARIES paid to employees in the private sector have drastically been reduced during the past few years, according to local economists.

The general consensus among economists is that most of the private sector salaries, particularly in the construction sector have been almost halved compared to what they were during the year 1982. That year, also witnessed a huge surplus in manpower in the local market, economists added.

One of the most effective means used by the private companies to reduce staff salaries and still retain their services is to sack them "en masse" and then reappoint those willing to rejoin on lower salaries. This scheme has been successful directly due to the excess of manpower in the private sector and is directly a contributory factor to the sharp drop in private sector wages.

The recession in activities in the country and the entire region due to the particular political climate resulted in a huge surplus of workers. This surplus applied to almost all administrative as well as technical posts. There are few job opportunities available in the local market at present. Thus employees in the private sector already employed are compelled to stick to their present jobs.

The economists added that all these adverse conditions have

strengthened the bargaining positions of businessmen. Conversely, employees are placed at a disadvantage and face several problems with landlords due to delayed payments of salaries, delayed payments of their children's fees and other incidental day to day expenses. Economists say that the present situation of employees in the private sector can best be described as deteriorating and "eating humble pie".

Freeze

The economists added that some private sector establishments such as banks, investment and shareholding companies did not apply such drastic measures, though they did adopt policies that succeeded in reducing the growth rate of their employees' salaries.

Annual salary increases in many cases were frozen, including reducing many of the facilities already provided to the employees. Conversely, responsibilities were expanded resulting in reducing employment of new staff. Promotions have also been restricted to a very few exceptional cases. Thus, economists said that most companies in the private sector put more burden on their employees without increasing their salaries even though they did not reduce them.

Directors of personnel affairs at several local private companies affirmed adopting such policies. They said that these

policies created a state of unrest and instability and killed the spirit of initiative among employees. However, they stressed that reducing the cost of employees was instituted in a priority of the expenditure and rationalisation policy of the companies.

Delays

However, economists said that some firms were more humane in their approach. They did not opt for collective sackings of employees. Instead they stopped new appointments and merged some identical jobs.

Another problem facing private sector employees and more intensely workers in the construction field, is the non-payment of salaries. Most of the employees interviewed said that the question of the delay in payment of salaries has become "the norm" rather than the exception. The only difference between the various companies operating in this field is the period of the delay. Some of them delay for a month or two, others for more, some pay in installments, and some others not at all.

Most analysts were unanimous that the section of employees who are most affected by the private sector measures are middle class employees who are adversely affected by salary cuts. They are particularly affected as the prices of most commodities and the standard of living as a whole has gone up, while salaries have declined.

Air Force pilots ask for better benefits

LIEUT Col Ahmad Al Najjar, head of the operations and training at Ahmed Al Jaber Air Base said that his department is responsible for training and organisation of the ninth and 25th squadrons of the Air Force.

The two squadrons include Skyhawk planes and will soon include F-18s according to a recent agreement signed between Kuwait's Ministry of Defence and officials in the USA.

The Operations and Training Department is also responsible for air control and aerial photography. Air photography operations are a vital aspect of the duties of the Air Force, both during times of peace and war, the official said.

Commenting on pilot's salaries, the Commanding Officer of Ahmed Al Jaber Air Base, Col. Sabu Bughith said that pilots' salaries in Kuwait are low compared with salaries paid to military pilots in other Gulf countries.

Electronic War Section is the heart of the base and is controlled by pilots during emergencies, Bughith added.

Preferential

A large section of pilots who were interviewed by a local daily said that they had been prohibited to fly Thursday night due to bad weather.

The daily who interviewed, the military pilots reported that the general consensus is that the pilots stated that they were underpaid. Further, they called for preferential treatment in housing allotments, medical facilities, and other social and child allowances.

Stableman sentenced in absentia

KUWAIT'S Criminal Court sentenced a man to life imprisonment in absentia, according to a local daily.

The court was told that the defendant, identified as Hussain R. was working as a stableman. In a premeditated attempt, he attacked the victim identified as S.A. who was working as a jockey. The victim was stabbed with a knife and sustained severe injuries to his head and other parts of his body.

Eyewitnesses to the crime rushed the victim to the hospital and testified in court, incriminating the accused beyond a doubt.

Kuwaiti civil servants to be trained

Refresher course study

THE state is sparing no efforts or finances under the current administrative development plan to provide specialised training to Kuwaitis, to enable them to shoulder their responsibilities in keeping with approved requirements for the development and upgrading of work performance in the public sector.

Training

Speaking to a local daily, Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashed, minister of state for cabinet affairs and acting chairman of the Civil Service Council (CSC) said that this training will be provided to a total of 21,000 Kuwaiti civil servants in various disciplines.

All government ministries, institutions and departments have fully co-operated in supporting the intensive training programmes instituted by the CSC, Rashed said. Beneficiaries of the programme will include senior civil servants and other employees of different grades and specialisations.

A study is currently underway to establish the feasibility of starting university refresher courses for recent graduates in high-demand specialisations. The courses are intended to be for a duration of one year, and are designed to refine graduates' abilities and skills to fulfil urgent requirements of the state, Rashed said.

KPIC partly covers local medicine needs

THE Kuwaiti Pharmaceutical Industries Company (KPIC) is presently able to produce a 100 varieties of medicines some of which can cover the requirements of the Ministry of Public Health, according to a company official.

In a move designed to protect the interests of medical patients, KPIC was established two years ago with a capital of KD6 million. Dr Sulaiman Al Tharban, managing director of KPIC said.

The company owns 28 pharmacies in the private sector and hopes to cover all medical requirements at a cost five per cent lower than prices offered by other pharmacies. The company's inspection team conducts

regular checks on all the company's pharmacies to ensure the quality and validity of medicines. Distribution of medicines to the company's pharmacies is done by four specially manufactured cars.

Commenting on the question of introducing a night shift at the company's pharmacies, Tharban said that 90 per cent of health services required by Kuwait's society totally depends on the facilities of the Ministry of Public Health which also includes the ministry pharmaceutical services. Thus, the implementation of the night shift is not really a necessity, he said.

KPIC Deputy Board Chairman Abdul Aziz Al Khoneine said that the company plays an

important role in organising the private pharmacies sector in the country. "Other privately owned pharmacies have followed the step of our pharmacies and unified prices," he said.

On the Gulf-wide level, the company has registered 20 types of medicines, which has enabled to open new marketing channels in the region. Locally, 95 types of medicine have been registered at the Ministry of Public Health, Khoneine said, and added that a total of 2,700 various types of medicines are registered and accredited internationally.

The company's future plans include further developments and higher production levels to cover local requirements. The company, is expected to

Private vehicle testing allowed

SOME private technical workshops will be authorised to undertake vehicle testing, according to a ministerial decision recently issued by Kuwait's Minister of Interior Sheikh Salem Al Sabah.

As per the decision, regulations governing the operations of these workshops are: possession of a licence issued by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry; necessary equipment for carrying out technical tests; adequate space in the workshops to accommodate vehicles undergoing testing and adequate parking facilities in co-ordination with Kuwait Municipality.

Procedures. Additionally, the decision stipulated the provision of such workshops with industrial safety equipment, and a suitable office where representatives of the traffic safety equipment, and a suitable office where representatives of the traffic department could accomplish their procedures for renewal.

The decision also states that the Ministry of Interior and at the request of the Director General of Kuwait's Traffic Department reserves the right to revoke the licences in case of any violations committed by the workshops. Additionally, the ministry reserves the right to administratively close down any workshop that violates executive decisions of the traffic department.

Man to hang for sex crime

KUWAIT'S Criminal Court sentenced a man to hang for being convicted for abduction and aggravated sexual assault on a female.

The court was told that the accused posed as a detective and asked the victim to accompany him to the police station for certain investigations.

The victim with the permission of the manager of the company in which she worked, left with the accused in his car ostensibly to be driven to the police station. However, the accused drove to an abandoned building and tried to sexually assault the victim. The victim put up a valiant struggle and the accused assaulted her with an iron crow bar.

Frantic screams of the female, brought two security guards working nearby to the scene. They found the lady lying on the ground covered with blood and the victim with the crow bar.

Police were called on to the scene who successfully managed to arrest the convict who was trying to flee the scene of the crime in his car.

Kuwaitis arrested

DETECTIVES of Ahmadi governorate yesterday arrested four Kuwaitis for allegedly assaulting a Bangladeshi man and stealing KD50 from him.

The plaintiff, identified as Mohammad S., complained to the police that the four accused stopped him with their car, beat him up and forcibly took KD50 from him and then ran away. Further investigations are under progress.

Oil find

OIL sources said yesterday that an oil exploration team found encouraging signs of the presence of oil on a farm in the Abdali area, near the Kuwait-Iraq border.

The team, after analysing samples from the farm, said that prospects of oil being present in commercial quantities were good.

The owner of the farm was asked to stop farming in order to allow the team to carry out more explorations.



Drugs on show

On the occasion of celebrating 'health week' in Kuwait the Ministry of the Interior held an exhibition of naturally grown drugs. The picture here shows a lump of natural opium.

Arab co-ops urged to take part in reconstruction of Fao

CAIRO, April 7. (KUNA): The Council of the Arab Co-operative union has recommended that Arab co-operatives take part in the reconstruction of the Iraqi port city of Fao in response to the call made by the Iraqi Co-operative Union.

The council also recommended assigning the representative of the Kuwaiti Co-operative Societies Barrak Nasser Al Noun to visit the Arab Gulf states which did not take part in the meetings to urge them to join the Arab union.

The council decided at the end of its meetings here Wednesday night to hold its second conference in Morocco next December.

Joint ventures and productive co-operative societies and agreed on the exchange of commodities and food among Arab countries with the aim of reducing food imports from the outside world.

The council meetings began last Monday with representatives of 12 Arab countries taking part, including Kuwait.

Company for purchasing aircraft proposed

PREPARATIONS for establishing an Arab company for purchasing and leasing of aircraft are currently under way, according to an official source.

In an interview with the Bahrain based daily Al Ayam and carried by Gulf News Agency (GNA), the official said that the registration procedures of the company were to be completed by the end of this month.

However, due to some clarifications regarding the feasibility study prepared by an American consulting firm, registration had been delayed. But, the establishment of the company will be issued within the coming three months, the official added.

Basically, the company aims at procuring finance for the purchase of aircraft as well as the

leasing of aircraft from international markets.

The paid up capital of the company is estimated to be US\$200 million to be subscribed as follows: one quarter to be subscribed by Arab local banks, second quarter by Arab airline companies and the remainder will be allocated for public subscription.

MIDEAST

ARAB TIMES, SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 1989

Several dead in riots over Montazeri

NICOSIA, April 7. (Reuters): An Iranian opposition group said several people died in riots this week between spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini's guards and supporters of his former designated successor.

The Baghdad-based Mujahideen Khaliq said in a statement released to Reuters yesterday that thousands of Revolutionary Guards were sent to Najafabad, the hometown of Ayatollah Hossein Ali Montazeri, to quell protests on Tuesday and Wednesday at his removal last month.

"The town's residents took to the streets, chanting slogans against Khomeini. They set fire to most government offices, including the Guards Corps headquarters," the statement said.

Sworn

Several people from both sides were killed and wounded and the guards arrested hundreds of the town's residents and imposed a night curfew, said the group which has sworn to overthrow the Tehran government.

Khomeini dropped Montazeri on the grounds that he was not fit to take political power.

In another development, 66 convicted drug traffickers were publicly hanged in 19 Iranian cities yesterday as the authorities vowed to "firmly and swiftly" bring other traffickers to justice.

The official Islamic Republic News Agency said 66 traffickers were hanged in Tehran and 13 provincial cities early yesterday, after revolutionary courts found them guilty of handling more than 16 tons of narcotic drugs between them.

The news agency said four armed burglars were also hanged in Larestan. The last hangings brought to more than 550 the total number of people executed for common crimes in Iran this year.

Tehran Radio said the hangings were carried out in public and several of the convicted men were also found guilty of gunrunning, resorting to arms to resist arrest and "creating terror in the region."

Afghan rebels reject truce

Rocket hits fuel depot

ISLAMABAD, April 7. (Agencies): Afghan rebels yesterday rejected a call by the Kabul government for a ceasefire during the holy month of Ramadan, saying they were on the verge of victory.

A statement from the Defence Ministry of the Pakistan-based rebel government called on all mujahedeen guerrillas to redouble their efforts during Ramadan.

"The proposal for postponing the battle in this sensitive time while the mujahedeen are on the verge of victory has no other purpose than the reinforcement of their demoralised and surrendering soldiers," it said.

"Therefore all mujahedeen forces are ordered to intensify their operating on military installations in this holy month and destroy the centres of enemy concentration."

In Kabul, a rebel rocket hit a fuel storage depot yesterday, destroying 13 oil trucks that had just reached the fuel-starved capital from the Soviet Union, witnesses said.

No-one was reported killed in the attack.

Blazing fuel sent a pall of smoke over Kabul, where 16 people have died in mujahedeen rocket attacks over the past three days.

Militiamen said nobody had been killed.

Ramadan began in Afghanistan yesterday. Muslims are supposed to fast from dawn to dusk during the holy month, but those fighting a "jihad" are excluded.

The statement repeated a call for officials and soldiers of the Soviet-backed Kabul government to defect, promising them asylum.

President Bush has appointed a special envoy to the Afghan resistance but the United States has not formally recognised the rebel government-in-exile, a US official said yesterday.

Meanwhile, aid sources said that 50,000 Afghan refugees have crossed into neighbouring Pakistan since December, many of them fleeing fighting in the eastern city of Jalalabad.

A special security court has convicted two Pakistanis of spying for their government to help Afghan Muslim guerrillas in their war against President Najib's forces.

In a trial conducted at the Foreign Ministry instead of a regular courtroom, Sgt Mohammad Ashraf was sentenced on Wednesday to 18 years imprisonment and Cpl. Mohammad Afzal was sentenced to 16 years.

Pre-emptive strike not ruled out

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, April 7. (Agencies): Foreign Minister Moshe Arens would not rule out a pre-emptive strike on Libya to prevent it using Soviet-supplied long-range bombers.

Arens said Israel had information the Soviet Union was about to supply Tripoli with Sukhoi-24 supersonic jets which could reach the Jewish state. The Foreign

Ministry urged Moscow to reconsider the deal, he said.

Asked if Israel would take pre-emptive action, Arens told Israel Radio: "If we carry out an action, we will first of all inform the right address and only afterwards the media."

Foreign Ministry spokesman Moti Amihai, asked the same question at a briefing with foreign correspondents, replied:

"Of course if Israel sees any real acute danger, we'll take all necessary steps to avoid it."

US officials say the Soviet Union has agreed to sell Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi, up to 15 SU-24 jets with an 800-mile range and an aerial refuelling capability.

A Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman declined to confirm or deny the sale but said Moscow

was entitled to provide its allies with defensive needs.

The Soviet Union confirmed that it delivered fighter-bombers to Libya last month but denied they had the range to threaten Libya's neighbours or Israel.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov insisted they numbered "around half a dozen," not 12 to 15 as claimed by US administration officials.

MIDEAST BRIEFS

Pakistani arrested

CAIRO, April 7. (Reuters): Egyptian police arrested a Pakistani merchant yesterday after three kg (seven pounds) of heroin were found in his luggage at Cairo airport, officials said.

Muhammad Ershad, 50, denied any knowledge of the drug, with a street value of about \$1.2 million, saying a friend had asked him to carry the luggage for him.

Airport officials said he arrived on a Gulf Air flight which originated in Karachi. It was not known if he boarded the plane there or in Abu Dhabi where it made a stopover.

Iranians detained

KOMOTINI, Greece, April 7. (AP): Three Iranians were arrested in this northeastern town for illegally entering Greece through Turkey, police said yesterday.

Police identified the men as Imbrahim Ismael Dekbour, 44, Bahman Jafar Balouchi, 40, and Hussein Ali Zamani, 28. Their hometowns were not available.

A police spokesman said they were arrested in the town's train station as they were trying to travel to Athens.

Rebels kill 164

NAIROBI, April 7. (Reuters): Ethiopian rebels said yesterday they had killed 164 government troops in a two-hour battle near the northern town of Maychew last Sunday.

The Voice of Tigray, the clandestine radio of the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), said in a broadcast monitored in Nairobi that a further 50 government troops were wounded and 13 captured in the fighting. It gave no other details.

Gulf truce talks

UNITED NATIONS, April 7. (KUNA): The next ministerial meeting aimed at achieving a comprehensive settlement to the Iraq-Iran conflict has been shifted to Geneva on or around April 20, UN sources told KUNA today.

The talks originally were to take place in New York, but due to the secretary-general's travel plans in Europe, Geneva is the more convenient location, the sources said.

Iraqi assembly

BAGHDAD, April 7. (KUNA): Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has summoned members of the newly-elected National Assembly to hold their first session next Wednesday.

The elections of the Iraqi National Council took place last Saturday, the first ever since the ceasefire in the Iraq-Iran war of last August.

More than eight million Iraqi nationals went to the polls to elect 250 members of the council.

Floods hit Iran

NICOSIA, April 7. (Reuters): Eastern Iran's worst floods in 30 years have destroyed 20 villages and inundated 20,000 hectares (75 square miles) of farmland.

Floodwaters are still rising and a big helicopter rescue operation is under way, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported today in a dispatch from Zabol near the Afghan border 1,100 km (650 miles) southeast of Tehran.

Call for jihad

NICOSIA, April 7. (Reuters): The Palestinian Muslim group Hamas called for a jihad against Israel during the fasting month of Ramadan.

In a statement dated April 5 but received in Nicosia yesterday, Hamas reiterated a call for PLO leader Yasser Arafat "to abandon the path of concessions and prepare for armed struggle."

Polish minister

TEL AVIV, April 7. (Reuters): Poland's Religious Affairs Minister Wladyslaw Loranc arrived yesterday for the first official visit to Israel by a Polish minister since Warsaw broke diplomatic relations in 1967.

"This is a development in the right direction in the relations between our two countries but there's much to be done still," Loranc told reporters at Ben-Gurion airport.

150 pardoned

ABU DHABI, April 7. (Reuters): The United Arab Emirates has pardoned 150 prisoners to mark the start of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, the official news agency WAM said today.

It did not specify the crimes of the prisoners, who were pardoned by President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan.

Egyptian court told

Libya 'supported Cairo attacks'

CAIRO, April 7. (Reuters): An Egyptian court was told yesterday that Libya, at loggerheads with Egypt for more than a decade, masterminded a clandestine revolutionary group that attacked Israeli and US diplomats in Cairo.

"The Libyan intelligence agency was the first to conceive the idea of the organisation," senior police officer Fahd Badreddin told the court. "This was confirmed by our own investigations."

Badreddin led the team that tracked down the anti-Israeli group, whose members killed two Israeli embassy employees, wounded others and shot at US

security officers in machine-gun attacks between 1984 and 1987.

He told the court that Libya recruited the alleged ringleader, former Egyptian intelligence officer Mahmud Nouredin, during a trip he made to Tripoli.

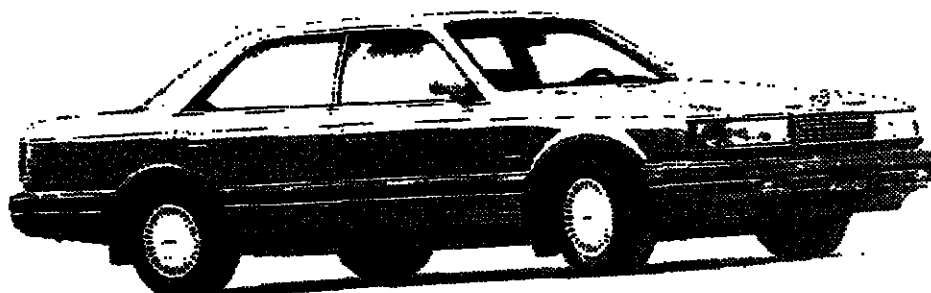
Prosecutors have demanded the death penalty for 11 defendants, including Nouredin and the son of late Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser. Nine others face jail sentences.

Khaled Abdel Nasser, living in self-exile in Europe, is the only defendant being tried in absentia.

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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

AN honest man is the noblest work of God — Alexander Pope, English poet (1688-1744).

Polls spell trouble

An Israeli ploy

By Paul Taylor

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, (Reuters): Elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, which Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir proposed to President Bush in Washington on Thursday, are viewed with almost equal distrust by Israelis and Palestinians.

Israeli officials fear polling would legitimise Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) supremacy in the occupied areas.

The last elections in 1976 were considered a disaster by almost every Israeli leader. They gave a boost to the PLO in the territories," a Foreign Ministry official said. "There is a certain trauma left."

Palestinians, on the other hand, see elections as an Israeli ploy to set up an alternative leadership to the PLO, impose limited self-rule and perpetuate Israeli control over the territories.

Aides say Shamir, a hardline nationalist, embraced the idea with trepidation in hopes of stopping a 16-month-old Palestinian uprising, which his Army has failed to crush.

For just that reason, many of the 1.75 million Palestinians under Israeli occupation oppose elections as an attempt to divert, divide and defeat their revolt.

Some critics believe the Israeli leader is secretly hoping the PLO will veto the plan and save him from ever having to conduct the elections.

"If the PLO rejects the idea, at least we have achieved something. For two years, Israel has been rejecting ideas, now the PLO will be rejecting," the Foreign Ministry official said.

For the Palestinians, elections raise innumerable problems. The fragile unity among rival factions forged during the uprising could fall apart over the distribution of mayoral offices and council seats.

The Islamic resistance movement Hamas and the PLO-backed United National Leadership of the Uprising would be unlikely to agree to any joint list. Competition between them could easily turn violent, triggering Israeli military intervention.

Israel would almost certainly exclude Arab East Jerusalem, annexed after the 1967 Middle East war, from any Palestinian elections, since it regards the area as sovereign Israeli territory.

That would disenfranchise 145,000 Palestinians and bar many senior pro-PLO leaders from running, including Faisal Al Hussein, Hanna Siniors and Sari Nusseibeh.

If municipal elections were conducted using Jordanian law, as Israel did in 1972 and 1976, most rural areas and refugee camps would be denied a vote and a limited franchise would prevail in the towns, Arab sources say.

Wary of repeating the experience of the early 1980s, when Israel deposed most of the elected West Bank mayors and deported some, Palestinians say they do not believe the new mayors would have any more power.

"Would an elected mayor be able to stop one house demolition by the Israelis? Would he be able to save a single one of our youths from arrest?" asks Nablus political science Professor Saeb Erakat.

"We do not need to elect garbage collectors," he says.

Israeli security officials fear elections would make it harder to control the territories.

It would mean legalising political activity that is now outlawed, allowing rallies, leaflets and posters.

"Many of the things currently regarded as incitement might suddenly become legal. From the security services' point of view, it would be a real problem," a security source said.

The PLO has demanded UN supervision of any elections and an Israeli withdrawal from Arab towns during polling.

Officials say Israel would probably have to concede some kind of international supervision to make the voting credible.

But Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin has steadfastly opposed any UN role in overseeing the occupied territories.

Press review

Ramadan generous to Muslims

KUWAIT, (KUNA): The daily Al Anba has said that the Islamic holy fasting month of Ramadan was generous to Kuwait, Iraq and Arabism.

The paper clarified that in Ramadan last year the hijack of the Kuwaiti airliner Al Jaberiyah came to an end and the Iraqi and Fao peninsula was liberated from occupation.

The Jaberiyah ordeal had affirmed to the world that Kuwaiti will was stronger than terrorism and blackmail, it emphasised.

The daily pointed out that first day of Ramadan last year witnessed liberation of Fao and endorsed courage of the Iraqi fighter who was able with determination and blood to impose his will and finalise the challenge with victory.

Lauding the liberation operation, the paper said that Fao will remain a bright spot in "our immortal Arabism" as Ramadan will remain linked with victories of "our glorious Islamic history."

Reservations over Bush's remarks

ABU DHABI, (KUNA): A UAE newspaper commented editorially on US President Bush's remarks after his meeting with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and said Arabs and the PLO were justified in having reservations over the US statement.

Abu Dhabi-based Al Fajr said: "The Arabs and the PLO have many reservations on President Bush's statements on the Palestinian issue except the call for Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza Strip."

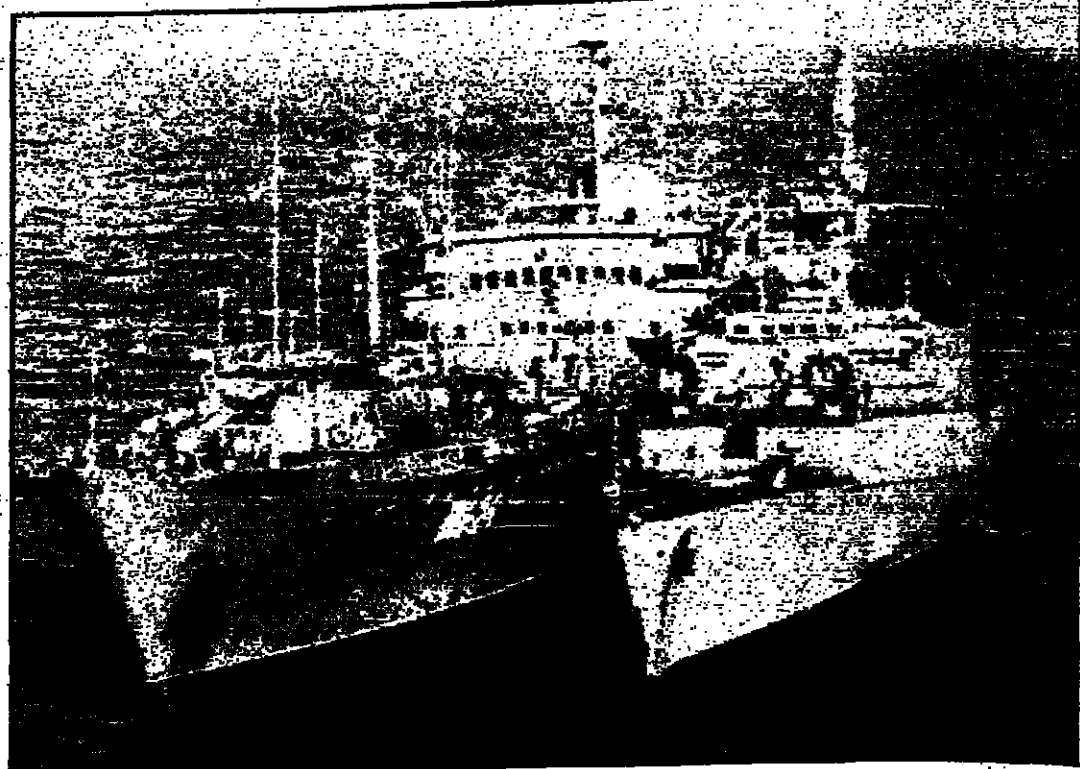
The statement, it said "fails to provide clarification to the leadership of the PLO on the term Palestinian political rights and (shows) the US administration has tightened conditions for the structure of the international conference for peace in the Middle East."

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1500 — French Army, aided by Swiss mercenaries, conquers Milan.
- 1730 — First Jewish congregation in America consecrates its first synagogue. The congregation in New York City dates back to 1655.
- 1759 — British forces take Malspuitam, Madras, India.
- 1898 — British General Horatio Kitchener's forces score victory at Atbara River in Sudan.
- 1902 — Russia and China reach agreement for evacuation of Manchuria.
- 1906 — Algeciras Act is signed, giving France and Spain chief control in Morocco.
- 1907 — Britain and France sign convention confirming independence of Siam (Thailand).
- 1913 — First parliament of Chinese republic opens.
- 1919 — Russian Communist Army enters the Crimea.
- 1939 — Albania's King Zog flees as Italian troops invade his country.
- 1950 — India and Pakistan sign pact at New Delhi on treatment of minorities.
- 1958 — US President Dwight D. Eisenhower proposes mutual inspection as means of enforcing atomic test ban.
- 1961 — Referendum in France approves a peace settlement with nationalist rebels in Algeria.
- 1964 — India releases Shaikh Abdullah, former premier of Kashmir.
- 1986 — Cab bomb explodes near Lebanese President Amin Gemayel's Phalange Party offices in Christian port of Jounieh, killing 10 civilians and wounding 110.
- 1988 — The United Nations mediator in Afghanistan talks says an agreement to end the war between the Soviet-backed Kabul government and Muslim guerrillas is completed and ready to be signed.



US warships escorting tankers in the Gulf during the war.



Two Soviet naval ships in the Gulf.

Soviets expand presence in Gulf

Attitude towards Moscow ambivalent

By Lee Stokes

ABU DHABI, (UPI): The US Navy's gradual withdrawal from the Gulf after the suspension of Iran-Iraq hostilities coincides with what American defence chiefs describe as an expanding Soviet military presence in the strategic waterway.

But while military planners say the Soviet presence poses a potential threat to Western interests in a region through which a fifth of the free world's oil flows, some of Washington's European and Gulf Arab allies do not see increasing numbers of Russian sailors as cause for great concern.

For them, the major problem was the Iran-Iraq war. None of America's allies dispute the US naval presence in the Gulf played a key role in persuading Iran to stop fighting and talk peace.

Even a senior Iranian official agreed the presence of the US fleet persuaded Tehran it could not win its war with Iraq.

But attitudes to the Soviet Union are ambivalent even among states that supported unified action to halt Tehran's attacks on neutral shipping.

European nations such as France, which withdrew from Nato's integrated military structure under President Charles de Gaulle, and neutral Gulf Arab states such as the United Arab Emirates, which maintains close ties with the Soviet bloc, say Moscow poses no threat to their regional interests.

"The Soviet Union poses no threat to French interests in the Indian Ocean and the Gulf," said Rear Adm. Guy Labouerie, 55, commander-in-chief of France's Indian Ocean fleet, which oversees operations in the Gulf.

"The Indian Ocean is very important for the Soviet Union's commercial traffic between East and

West," Labouerie said during a recent visit to Bahrain. "The Trans-Siberian railway is unable to assume all requirements to move goods."

UAE government officials dismiss assessments that improving Soviet-Saudi Arabian ties would make it easier for the Emirates to grant Moscow port facilities for its Gulf fleet within the strategic waterway at some future date.

Unlike the United States, the Soviet Union enjoys no permanent anchorage in Gulf waters.

"There is no Soviet threat here," said one UAE official in Abu Dhabi. "We are an open country, and have friendly relations with all states, including the Soviet Union."

Iran under its leader Ayatollah Khomeini welcomed the Soviet naval presence as necessary "balance to imperialist forces in the region." Even anti-communist states such as Saudi Arabia have not spoken out against the Russian presence.

And Kuwait, which asked the Soviets to protect its tankers from Iranian attack, prompting US response, also has not yet asked the Soviets to withdraw now the Iran-Iraq conflict appears to be over.

That leaves Washington, which recently pulled out three minesweepers and a support vessel from the Gulf in the Navy's biggest withdrawal from the volatile waterway since the Aug 20 UN-brokered Gulf War ceasefire, with the dilemma of how to face what its officers perceive to be growing Soviet menace.

US ally Britain withdrew its own minesweeping force from the Gulf earlier this year, and France ordered its Clemenceau battle group to other duties in the Indian Ocean. Italian, Dutch and Belgian naval forces pulled out last year.

By contrast, the Soviets have not only maintained the level of their Gulf naval presence but also have

increased its potential influence with diplomatic initiatives and military assistance programmes, according to US officials.

The Soviet pullout Feb 15 from Afghanistan and Moscow support for a Middle East conference on the Palestinian issue has allowed the Kremlin to press for closer ties with Islamic states.

Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf, who commands US forces in the Middle East from a Tampa, Florida based central command, said there were no funds available from the Pentagon to construct a Middle East base for US forces.

But he warned that unlike the United States, Moscow was actually increasing rather than unwinding its forces in the region.

"What we've seen is an increase not a decrease," Schwarzkopf said during a recent visit to the region. "I see no Soviet withdrawal, as a matter of fact I see a continuing intrusion of Soviets, an increase in diplomatic initiatives and military assistance in this area... the Soviets haven't pulled out," he said.

During a swing through the Gulf that included a rare audience in Tehran with Khomeini, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze called on all foreign navies to pull out of the waterway.

He was quoted as saying Moscow's naval force, sent to the Gulf two years ago at the request of Kuwait, amounted to only four warships including two minesweepers.

US military experts dispute this figure. They say US warships, planes and helicopters have spotted many more Soviet warships in the Gulf, while scores of other ships flying the Soviet ensign in the Red Sea enjoy port facilities in Aden, South Yemen, which is the Arab world's only Marxist state.

"I can tell you (Shevardnadze's) math is very bad

from what we've seen," Schwarzkopf said in reference to the Soviet's tally of Russian warships in the waterway.

"The Soviets now have a permanent presence in the Gulf that they never had before... They (also) have a heavy naval presence in the Red Sea... and an overwhelming number of military advisers and military men in many countries in this area, starting with (South) Yemen," Iraq and Ethiopia.

Western military experts believe South Yemen's defences are run by East German, Cuban and Soviet experts while Soviets, who enjoy anchorage facilities in Aden where they have an estimated 3,000 military advisers, run the country's Air Force and Navy.

The experts said there were several hundred Soviet advisers in Iraq, which received a large chunk of its weapons during the Gulf war from Moscow, and Marxist Ethiopia, across the Red Sea from Saudi Arabia's vital oil wells.

The latest American withdrawal from the Gulf has left the US Navy with 10 warships in the waterway and a nine-ship carrier battle group in the neighbouring North Arabian Sea.

This compares with a peak of some 27 vessels last year during clashes between US and Iranian naval forces.

The size of the US naval presence in the region is less than 20 vessels for the first time since Washington and its allies began a massive buildup of their naval forces in the wake of Iranian shipping attacks.

Even in the days of Soviet glasnost and perestroika, America's military men feel no inclination to let down their guard.

"My job as a military man is not to look at people's intentions but capabilities, and that's the threat I have to be prepared to defend against," said Schwarzkopf.

Botha finally buckles under political pressure

By Brendan Boyle

CAPE TOWN, (Reuters): President P. W. Botha has buckled to political pressure for his retirement, announcing elections that will clear the way for National Party leader F. W. de Klerk to succeed him.

De Klerk, 53, would be president of South Africa before the end of the year, government and party sources said.

Botha hinted on Thursday he would not seek a third five-year term as head of government when he addressed a special joint sitting of the segregated white, mixed-race coloured and Indian Houses of Parliament.

Information Minister Stoffel van der Mepwe said the ruling White National Party (NP) would not give him any option.

"The (NP) caucus has made it clear that its candidate for the presidency will be leader-in-chief of the party and that is Mr. F. W. de Klerk," he said.

Van der Mepwe said no election date had been set but it would probably take place between mid-July and late September.

Botha, 73, has resisted party pressure for him to step down since Feb 2, when he resigned the NP leadership after a mild stroke on Jan 18.

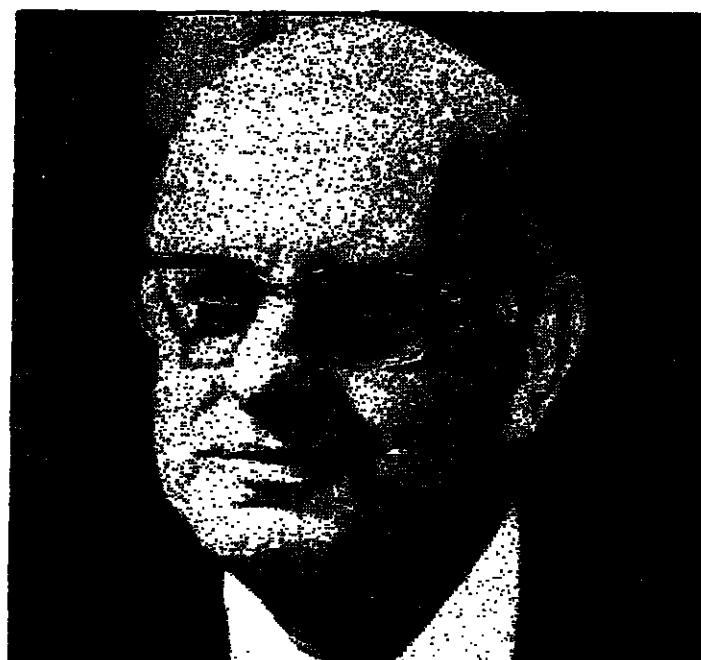
The party caucus elected Education Minister De Klerk as NP leader and immediately began pressing Botha to quit.

Party sources said they were tired of Botha's autocratic style and his reluctance to implement sweeping race law reforms considered essential to South Africa's peace and economic prosperity.

NP Members of Parliament said privately he was out of touch with the mood of the country.

Botha rejected a unanimous party vote in March for unification of the posts of president and party leader under De Klerk. He said in a defiant television interview on March 12 he would remain President for at least another year.

But on Thursday he finally backed down. With his wife Elize and his youngest daughter Rozanne watching from the gallery, he said he would dissolve Parliament next month in a prelude to elections for the three Houses of Parliament.



Botha, out of touch

"After the election of the new Parliament, arrangements will... have to be made for constituting an electoral college to elect a new state President," Botha said.

South Africa's 26 million blacks have no vote at the national level and the election of the NP's presidential candidate is a formality.

A senior NP source said after Botha's speech that his message was a

compromise between his earlier intention to cling to power and the party's wish to have De Klerk take over as soon as possible.

"The caucus faced a dilemma in that it wanted to see the leadership change as soon as possible, but that could not be done without major upheaval."

"In this way, by letting him serve out his full term — but no longer — he can be allowed to go without loss of face," the source said.

He said some party members were unhappy with the compromise, which will keep De Klerk out of power for four to six months but added: "It was the best we could do."

Cape Town University political scientist Professor Robert Schriepel said of Botha: "I think it is probably true to say that he is the most disliked and the least respected leader the National Party has had since it came to power in 1948."

"He survived through the force of his own personality, his vindictiveness and the fear he inspires in others."

Both succeeded B. J. Vorster as prime minister in September 1978. He stunned colleagues who considered him a conservative when he told South Africa's privileged white minority they would have to "adapt or die."

He reformed the worst aspects of legislated racial discrimination known as apartheid but used Draconian force to crush black pressure for its abolition, plunging South Africa into its darkest period of violence and isolation.

More than 2,500 blacks were killed and thousands maimed in riots and clashes with police and soldiers from 1984 to 1986.

Security forces were given almost unlimited power under a state of emergency imposed in June 1986. Black opposition groups were silenced. More than 30,000 people were detained without charge, some of them for almost three years.

Botha refused to bow to crippling Western sanctions to give blacks the vote. But he sought repeatedly to negotiate with moderate black leaders on a system of power sharing that would keep control in white hands.

"The party needs a more modern leader now — someone who can react to the fast-changing pace of political life. Mr Botha could not accept that," a senior NP member said.

Civilised people simply do not glorify atrocities

French royalists not amused by bicentenary celebrations

By Michela Wrong

PARIS, (Reuters): Royalists here are far from amused as France prepares to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the French Revolution.

The French monarchists see the decision to commemorate a national trauma which led to both King Louis XVI and Queen Marie Antoinette being guillotined as a gesture in the worst possible taste.

"How can one celebrate a revolution which caused more than a million deaths without a shudder of horror?" says Daniel Hamiche, press spokesman for the Duke of Anjou's Support Group, one of two rival organisations campaigning for the restoration of the French throne.

"Civilised people simply do not glorify such atrocities," he adds with distaste.

For the royalists, the bloody 1789 revolution which brought down the monarchy, ravaged the aristocracy and ushered in a republic was a disaster which split the end of France's dominance in Europe and left it permanently scarred.

They regard it as absurd and outrageous for France to commemorate what they see as a national humiliation with year-long events climaxing with a Paris procession and all-night concert marking the mob's storming of the Bastille on July 14.

Earlier this year masked skinheads shouting "Long live the king" attacked soprano Helene Delaault during a recital of popular revolutionary songs, wrestling her to the ground, sitting on her chest and spraying her with tear-gas.

Royalists are bitterly split over the tricky question of whether the Duke of Anjou or the Count of Paris is rightful heir to the throne.

But while remaining deliberately vague about just how many members they have, both organisations claim support is on the rise, with young people swelling the ranks of the new recruits.

"French people are becoming more and more disillusioned with the political system, there is a widespread feeling of revulsion at what they see as petty party

squabbles," says Pierre Pujo, who heads the group supporting the Count of Paris' claim.

Pujo, who runs the royalist newspaper *Aspects de la France* from a small office a stone's throw from the Louvre museum, says he sells over 30,000 copies and has many more supporters.

He admits that many of the new recruits are former members of the far-right National Front party, rejected by establishment and press for its virulent anti-immigrant stand. "We give them something the National Front, which is too mixed up in politics, cannot offer," he says.

Hamiche says his group numbers tens of thousands of followers, cutting across social classes and ages, including both workers and the middle-class. It is particularly strong among conservative Catholic families from the provinces.

These members are attracted by one simple idea — that France is in crying need of a neutral figure standing above the political fray, to unite the nation and

represent its interests abroad.

"The French have never been any good at democracy," says Hamiche. "No political system is perfect so we have to choose the least imperfect system which best matches the national character."

For the royalists, Socialist President Francois Mitterrand holds a contradictory position — a supposedly neutral head of state and commander of the Army, he is in fact a party figure elected by a fraction of the population.

"The system we live with today is totally illogical and surreal, and more and more people are beginning to realise it," says Hamiche.

Just how any future king would ascend to the French throne, however, remains unclear.

Hamiche imagines that popular pressure could eventually lead to a national referendum ushering in the restoration. Pujo believes growing cynicism with French politics will cause a major crisis making change inevitable.

Of course, one issue would then need

to be resolved — which of the two rival candidates should wear the crown?

One is 15-year-old Spanish schoolboy Louis de Bourbon, still more interested in computers and sport, who inherited the Anjou title when his father Alphonse died in a skiing accident in January.

The other is 24-year-old law student Jean D'Orleans, named less than two years ago royal heir by 80-year-old pretender Henri D'Orleans, the patriarchal Count of Paris.

The dispute dates back to the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713, when the kings of France and Spain — Louis XIV and Philip V, signed away any dynastic rights to each other's thrones.

Present-day supporters of the Spanish claim argue that royal status is a God-given right which cannot be negotiated or renounced, leaving young Louis as France's rightful sovereign.

But the "Orleansists" say the treaty still stands, and in any case, they say, the French would simply never accept a Spanish king.

هكذا امتنا الضال

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Egyptian pound's further decline predicted

Currency black market stages comeback

CAIRO, April 7. (Reuters): Egypt's foreign currency black market, subdued for nearly two years after economic reforms, is staging a powerful comeback and threatening further depreciation of the Egyptian pound, bankers say.

An acute liquidity shortage, coinciding with high demand on the dollar, has forced the pound to unprecedented lows and bankers expect further decline.

They said the rebound of the black market reflected a lack of confidence in government policy.

"It's a vicious circle. We are now back to the days when the black market controlled hard currency and the value of the pound," said one banker.

The dollar fetched 2.90 pounds on the black market this week against 2.45 on the official free market set up in 1987. The official rate is set daily by a committee of bankers.

"The pound has been shrinking. I expect it (the official rate) to dip to 2.70 or three against the dollar in the next few months," another banker said.

Analysts said the decline appeared partly spurred by a spate of rumours, including one that the military was buying dollars from the street to meet debt commitments.

Bankers said a decline in remittances from Egyptians working abroad, the country's main hard currency earner, had created a shortage of funds in the official market and helped deepen the crisis.

"The drop in dollar revenue on the official market amounts to 40 per cent," an analyst with a public sector bank said.

"It's a problem of confidence," he said. "People can no longer trust the economy of the administration."

He cited a government crackdown on Islamic investment houses last year which deprived hundreds of thousands of small depositors from monthly returns paid by these firms and froze millions of dollars in investments.

The government feared the Islamic companies, which paid higher returns than banks, were unstable pyramid schemes that threatened the economy.

Value

"The ordinary Egyptian worker in the Gulf is bewildered by the crackdown because the Islamic companies have been working for years in the country and dealing with the government and public sector," the bank analyst said.

"Such people have ceased to transfer their dollars through the official banking system."

Bankers said the turmoil on the dollar market was likely to raise inflation, now running at about 25 per cent. "The consumer will bear the brunt of the decline in the value of the pound," a private banker said.

The Egyptian pound, which faced a 60 per cent de facto devaluation due to the economic reforms of 1987, has seen its value cut by 10 piastres (four cents) against the dollar on the official market over the past month.

This was the biggest monthly decline since the government set up the official foreign exchange market in May 1987 to curb speculation against the local currency.

Trouble

The official market, which then raised the dollar rate to near realistic levels of about 2.16 from the previous 1.35 pounds, has largely kept black market dealers at bay.

"Black market dealers had not totally disappeared. But the difference between the official and the free rates remained unchanged at about six per cent," another banker said.

But the downhill trend started in February with rumours that some banks were facing trouble, which created a run on

deposits stretching the limits at some banks.

Bankers said up to \$200 million had been withdrawn from one bank alone within six weeks.

They said the liquidity squeeze was likely to backslash on another front — repayment of about \$4 billion in private debts.

Some bankers said domestic foreign currency loan made when the dollar was worth 0.80 pounds were likely to be dropped, at least in part, as bad debts.

Bankers expect the shortage to worsen later this month when tens of thousands of Muslims turn to the black market for dollars to perform the umra, or minor pilgrimage to Makkah, during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

Foreign exchange revenues from the official market, which has brought about \$5.3 billion into the banking system since its establishment, are only used to finance imports. The black market supplies dollars for other transactions.

Bankers said the government and public sector projects were the main beneficiary of the hard currency revenues of the official market, leaving the private sector and other Egyptians to fill their needs from the black market.



Protest against rising prices

Two mothers carrying their babies join about 50 other women belonging to a militant women's organisation, in the picket outside the presidential palace. They were protesting against rising prices of commodities in Manila, which they blamed on the government's compliance with economic policies they alleged were imposed by the International Monetary Fund. (Reuters wirephoto).

Soviet Union shuns nuclear energy for natural gas

LONDON, April 7. (Reuters): A new Soviet energy strategy will favour rapid development of gas which is the cleanest of fossil fuels over nuclear power, according to a Moscow official.

The programme brings forward to 1995 from the year 2000 a target of raising gas output to one trillion cubic metres per year, said Nazip Baykov, a senior scientific researcher.

Baykov, of the Institute of World Economy and International Relations at the Academy of Sciences, spoke at a conference on the Soviet economy ending in London today.

Gas output by the Soviet Union, the biggest producer, was 170 billion cubic metres in 1988 and is planned to rise to 820 billion in 1995, Soviet statistics show.

Baykov said: "The previous energy programme provided for the achievement of one trillion cubic metres of gas production by the end of the century. The new energy programme provides for the same achievement ... in 1995."

"The preparations of the new energy programme are in the last stage of refinement and very soon it will be published for public discussion," he added.

"The main ideas of the new energy programme are the slow development of ... nuclear energy with the more rapid development of the gas industry."

Another institute official, Rair Simonyan, head of its industrial economics division, told the London meeting that a Soviet decision to join other oil producers outside OPEC in a round of oil export cuts was a logical step to support prices.

"We need hard currency exports but we understand we shouldn't undermine the market structure. It's logical to take steps not to undermine it," he said.

The Soviet Union has said it is cutting exports of oil, its main hard currency earner, by some 100,000 barrels daily for the first half of 1989. Soviet oil exports to hard currency areas have run at around two million barrels daily.

IFAD loan for Dhaka

ROME, April 7. (OPECNA): The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) is to extend \$7.16 million in the form of a "highly concessional" loan to Bangladesh.

The rest of the funding will come from the Danish government and from Bangladesh's own resources.

The credit will help finance the implementation of an IFAD-sponsored fisheries management scheme aimed at increasing the income of small-scale fishermen.

IFAD said the loan was in direct response to a Bangladeshi request for assistance in implementing a new fisheries policy, fishing communities being among the poorest of the country's rural population.

About 6,800 households will directly benefit from the project, with increases in their annual incomes ranging from \$75 to \$195.

The scheme hinges on organising the local population into groups which will be encouraged to become increasingly responsible for good fishing practices, fishing stocking, lake maintenance and proper resource utilisation of both lake waters and the surrounding areas.

Justice Department will not oppose move

Merger does not violate law: Rule

WASHINGTON, April 7. (AP): The US Justice Department says it will not oppose the proposed merger of Time Inc. and Warner Communications Inc. in a deal that would create the world's largest entertainment and media conglomerate.

Assistant Attorney General Charles F. Rule said on Thursday that a month-long investigation of the proposed merger by the Justice Department's antitrust division concluded that the merger would not substantially lessen competition in any relevant market.

"What we know suggests the merger is not anti-competitive and does not violate the law," said Rule, who is in charge of antitrust division.

The investigation began after the March 4 announcement by

Time and Warner of the stock swap that would create an \$18-billion company, combining the magazine publishing and cable television operations of Time with Warner's recording and movie production interests.

Rule said that the antitrust division carefully examined the possible integration of Warner's movie and television production operations with Time's cable-television distribution systems.

Time operates HBO and Cinemax cable television networks.

Warner owns cable interests through Warner Cable Communications.

Rule said the antitrust division did not object to the merger even though it would enable the combined company to both produce and distribute movies and television shows.

A survey of the industry showed that a number of cable outlets have exclusive relationships with movie studios. "We didn't feel this would substantially increase the exclusivity already in place in the industry," Rule said.

Showtime, another cable movie channel, started the exclusive arrangements to better enable it to compete with HBO, Rule said.

The department will continue to monitor the cable industry to ensure that these arrangements do not result in restraint of trade, he said.

Rule said both companies must still get approval from local cable franchising authorities. The conglomerate, Time-Warner Inc., is expected to have annual revenues of \$10 billion.

Scandal may force Takeshita to resign

TOKYO, April 7. (Reuters): Post-war Japan's biggest political scandal looks increasingly likely to force Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita to resign, political analysts said after a week of damaging revelations.

Major Japanese newspapers today reported the premier had received a further 25 million yen (\$190,000) from the Recruit Company, at the heart of the scandal.

Earlier in the week an aide admitted Takeshita's political support group had received 30 million yen (\$275,000) in May, 1987, from the publishing and telecommunications group accused of trying to buy business and political favours.

This was in addition to the 20 million yen (\$155,000) Takeshita had already admitted receiving as a donation from Recruit.

Pressure

Analysts say a large group within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party now see dumping Takeshita as the only way the party can avoid a blood-bath in future elections.

Three cabinet ministers have been forced to resign in connection with the Recruit scandal and 13 businessmen and senior civil servants have been arrested.

"The pressure is building up within the LDP," said Tokyo University Professor Takashi Inoguchi.

"There is a growing feeling in the party that with Takeshita as prime minister they will suffer a severe setback in any election which comes along," he said.

"It must be the worst situation the party has ever experienced," said Hitoshi Abe, political science professor at the broadcasting university.

"Something has to be done immediately or there is a possibility that the opposition will take over the majority in the Diet (parliament) at the next election," he added.

Some media reports said a number of junior LDP members of Parliament had created a new group that wanted Takeshita out.

A spokesman for legislator Shintaro Ishihara confirmed that a group had been formed, but declined to specify what its policy was.

Abe said: "Those members have decided to stand up to help the party. They must have felt that they could put some pressure on senior members to solve the crisis."

"The group is unlikely to press Takeshita to resign in the immediate future, but if he does nothing to stop the crisis, the group will take a radical action towards him."

Opposition party leaders met today and agreed to keep up their demands for Takeshita's resignation over the scandal.

Dollar steady and gold little changed

LONDON, April 7. (AP): The dollar was steady at lower levels in thin European trading late this morning as the market awaited the release of the US unemployment figures for March later in the day.

Gold prices were little changed.

Traders said the dollar was almost certain to stay locked within a narrow range until after the unemployment figures were released at 1:30 pm (1230 GMT).

"The dollar has been trading sideways for three days and now the dollar has virtually come to a standstill," one Rome trader said.

But he noted that the market was waiting for the unemployment figures to give it direction.

Economists were expecting the unemployment rate to rise to 5.2 per cent in March from 5.1 per cent in February.

If the report turns out to be as expected, the dollar likely would decline gradually, a trader said.

Down

In Tokyo, where trading ends before Europe's business day begins, the dollar fell 0.07 yen to a closing 132.08 yen. Later, in London, it was quoted at 131.95 yen.

Other dollar rates at mid-morning, compared with late Thursday:

In Zurich, the bid price was \$384.40 up from \$384.35 bid late Thursday.

Minister blames speculators for Argentine currency stumble

BUENOS AIRES, April 7. (Reuters): A day after Argentina's currency was devalued 21.5 per cent, New Economy Minister Juan Carlos Pugliese warned yesterday of speculators pushing down the austral's free market value.

"There is a clique of speculators, (in) the famous 20 blocks around Buenos Aires port, who care very little for the minister's credibility, Pugliese, who was sworn in on Tuesday, told reporters."

The austral's free market quotation on Wednesday dropped to 48.25 per dollar from 42.75. Yesterday it opened at 48.60 per dollar.

President Raul Alfonsín, whose radical party lags behind the opposition Peronists in opinion polls 38 days before general elections, named Pugliese as

economy chief in a bid to calm Argentina's hair-trigger markets ahead of the May 14 polls.

Currency dealers said the austral fell on Wednesday because dollar-holding exporters stayed out of the market and importers actively bought dollar futures, all of them hedging against downturns in the austral.

Pugliese, who replaced Juan Sourrouille as economy minister, said he would appeal to consumers and political activists to check the mounting double-digit monthly inflation.

Political opponents and local economists say Alfonsín named Pugliese, a highly respected political figure, to build up the markets' confidence in his government and increase radical presidential candidate Eduardo Angelos' chances against Peronist Carlos Menem.

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World oil prices tumble

LONDON, April 7. (Reuters): World crude oil prices fell for the second day in a row yesterday as traders saw an end to disruptions of Alaskan shipments caused by a massive oil spill.

"The Valdez effect is over," said one trader.

He was referring to 19-month oil price highs reached after an Exxon Corp. tanker ran aground on March 24, and disgorged 240,000 barrels of crude in the worst such disaster in US history. Closure of the port fuelled existing concern about tighter world supplies and nudged prices to their highest since a Gulf war flareup in August 1987.

At the end of the European trading day, North Sea Brent blend, the world's most widely quoted crude, was off 40 cents.

Cargoes for immediate delivery were quoted at \$19.35 a barrel compared with \$19.75 at the same time on Wednesday but activity was very subdued.

The US Coast Guard said the reopened port of Valdez will operate in daylight hours only for an indeterminate time.

The US benchmark West Texas Intermediate was down 35 cents at \$19.90 a barrel by the end of the European day. Dubai, the key Middle East grade, was off 40 cents at \$15.95 a barrel.

Traders estimated the temporary closure of Valdez cut Alaskan output by a total of around 12 to 13 million barrels.



Commercial Bank honours employees

Hamad A.A. Al Hamad, chairman of the Commercial Bank of Kuwait presents medal and service recognition certificate to one of the long-serving employees of the bank. At right is Mohammad Abdul Rahman Al Yahya, chief general manager.

In her welcome speech praised the kind attention and care extended by the chairman of the bank's staff. Hamad Al Hamad in his speech thanked all staff members for their contributions and devotion which enabled the bank to achieve remarkable growth and progress since its establishment in 1961. He also urged them to exert more efforts in order to meet the present and future challenges and expressed his appreciation of the devotion and loyalty shown by long serving employees of the institution.

LONDON
(Index Stocks)

NAME	LAST
ABBIE LFE	317.0
ADT LTD	153.0
ALD LYONS	437.0
ANSTRAD	135.0
ARGYLE GP	180.0
ASDA GP	144.0
BAA	354.0
BTR	333.0
BAT INDS	552.0
BARCLAYS	434.0
BASS	887.0
BEAZER	191.0
BEECHAMS	593.0
BERRISFORD	148.0
BICC PLC	490.0
BLUE ARMY	90.0
BLUE CIRC	556.0
BOC GP	492.0
BOOTS CO	262.0
BPS INDS	246.0
BR COMM	206.0
BR AIRWAY	197.0
BR AEROSP	550.0
BR GAS RG	176.0
BR LAND	361.0
B.P.	276.0
B.P. PP	171.0
BR STEEL	817.2
BR TELCOM	272.0
BURMAN OL	533.4
BURTON	207.0
CABLESWIR	462.0
CADBURYS	346.0
CALOR GP	377.0
CLRTN CO	853.0
CLRTN R T	847.0
COOKSONS	295.0
COURTAULD	290.0
DALGETY	351.0
DIXONS	150.0
ENG CHINA	518.0
ENTER OIL	501.0
FKI BABCO	171.0
FERRANTI	100.0
FISONS	283.0
GATEWAY	172.0
GEN ACCID	980.0
GEN ELEC	224.0
GLAXO	318.0
GRANADA	372.0
GLOBE	164.5
GLYNED	154.5
GUARD RYL	205.0
GNL	348.0
GUINNESS	435.0
HMMERS A	771.0
HANSON	179.0
HARRISON C	77.0
HUKER SID	635.0
HILLSDOWN	266.0

LONDON
(Data Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
2ND ALLCE	857.0	857.0
600 GROUP	123.0	123.0
A.AMER TS	422.0	421.0
A.S.ELECT	384.0	388.0
A.S.W.HLD	271.0	271.0
AAB KEAT	101.0	101.0
AAN HLD	393.0	392.0
AARONSON	114.0	114.0
ADDISON	40.4	42.0
ADVEST	178.0	178.0
ALEX WKW	150.0	150.0
ALEXON	389.0	391.0
ALD COLL	140.0	141.0
ALD IR B	308.0	308.0
ALD LON	146.0	145.0
ALL PART	74.4	74.4
ALLIANCE	972.0	971.0
AMBER DAY	53.4	53.4
AMEC	438.0	435.0
AMER TST	132.0	132.0
AMERSHAM	509.0	509.0
AMH	362.0	362.0
ANGLIA SC	405.0	405.0
ANGLIA TV	254.0	254.0
ANSBACHER	77.0	76.0
APPLEYARD	457.0	457.0
APV PLC	154.0	154.0
ASHLEY LA	108.0	108.0
AUS REE A	244.0	242.0
AUST REED	393.0	393.0
AUTO SECS	296.0	296.0
AVDEL PLC	99.0	98.0
AVESCO	147.0	148.0
AVIS EUR	369.0	368.0
AVON RUBB	622.0	621.0
B. MEINHILL	243.0	243.0
BAILL JPH	523.0	523.0
BAILL SHI	91.0	91.0
BAIRDF (V)	242.0	243.0
BANK IRE	305.0	305.0
BANKER IT	87.4	88.0
BARDON GP	168.0	168.0
BART DEV	196.0	194.0
BAYNES C.	32.0	32.0
BBA GROUP	194.0	193.0
BEAR BRND	11.2	11.2
BEATTIE J	160.0	160.0
BELHAVEN	49.0	50.0
BELLWAY	235.0	235.0
BENROSE	246.0	243.0
BENKLO HD	64.0	65.0
BERKELEY	244.0	242.0
BHH GROUP	132.4	132.0
BK OF SCO	99.0	99.0
BLCK L2	13.2	13.2
BK GROUP	454.0	453.0
BNETT + F	96.0	96.0
BOASE MAS	310.0	308.0
BOODINGTON	167.0	167.0
BOOY SHOP	511.0	511.0
BOOT HENR	463.0	463.0

World Indices

INDEX	LAST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-OR	PREV-YR
FT 30 IND	1675.0	1684.2	1705.4	1655.3
FT 500 SHR	1167.8	1167.8	1182.2	1008.8
FT ALL SHR	1063.38	63.38	1075.13	926.59
FT GOV SEC	86.54	86.54	86.70	87.03
FT GOLD MN	188.9	188.9	191.0	161.9
FT MINES F	673.20	73.20	672.80	565.31
FT OIL	1945.9	1945.9	1973.9	1725.4
FT WLD DLR	143.13	144.09	144.09	139.21
FT WLD STG	124.50	125.66	125.19	115.30
FT WLD LOC	130.88	131.77	131.27	123.40

London Stock Market Report

U.K. FTSE OPENS 21 POINTS DOWN, GLOOM DEEPENS

LONDON, APRIL 7, REUTER - THE FTSE 100 SHARE INDEX OPENED 21.3 POINTS DOWN AT 2031.2, FOLLOWING A 25 POINT FALL YESTERDAY, AS RESURGENT WORRIES OVER THE U.K. ECONOMY AND JITTERS AHEAD OF KEY U.S. DATA TODAY, DEEPENED THE MARKET'S GLOOM.

DEALERS SAID NEW WARNINGS BY CITY ECONOMISTS OF A "HARD LANDING" FOR THE U.K. ECONOMY HAD HIT A MARKET ALREADY RUNNING SCARED OVER A WEAK POUND AND THREATS OF HIGHER INTEREST RATES.

THE PROXIMITY OF U.S. EMPLOYMENT FIGURES WHICH ARE EXPECTED TO SET THE NEAR TERM COURSE OF INTEREST RATES THERE, ADDED TO THE DEPRESSION. "IT'S ALL COME TOGETHER AT THE WRONG TIME. WE'RE LOOKING AT A MAJOR CORRECTION HERE," SAID ONE TRADER.

DEALERS SAID CONCERN OVER THE U.K. ECONOMY HAD BEEN HEIGHTENED BY A REPORT FROM PHILLIPS & DREW ECONOMIST BILL MARTIN. "WE HAVE SHIFTED OUR RECOMMENDATION ON THE BRITISH ECONOMY FROM "HOLD" TO "SELL". WE NOW SEE IT DRIFTING INTO A PERIOD OF STAGFLATION," MARTIN SAID.

HE BELIEVES THE BEST ROUTE TO SLOWER GROWTH AND CONTROLLED INFLATION IS THROUGH A QUICK DOSE OF DEFLATION, PERHAPS BY ANOTHER TWO POINTS ON INTEREST RATES. HE DID NOT THINK CHANCELLOR LAUSON HAD THE STOMACH FOR SUCH SHOCK TREATMENT, HOWEVER, AND THE ECONOMY'S SLOW DOWN WOULD BECOME A LONG PROTRACTED AFFAIR WITH INFLATION BECOMING INGRATINATED.

Precious Metals

LONDON, APRIL 7, REUTER - GOLD BULLION TRADING REMAINED DULL THIS MORNING WITH OPERATORS HESITANT AHEAD OF THE RELEASE OF THE U.S. MARCH EMPLOYMENT DATA DUE AT 1230 GMT TODAY, DEALERS SAID.

GOLD FIXED SLIGHTLY AT 384.40 DLR AN OUNCE, LITTLE CHANGED FROM ITS OPENING AND THURSDAY'S CLOSE OF 383.90/384.40 AND 384.50/385.00 DLR RESPECTIVELY.

PALLADIUM CONTINUED TO GAIN GROUND. IT WAS FIXED AT 167.75 DLR AN OUNCE, UP 1.50 DLR FROM THURSDAY AFTERNOON AND ITS HIGHEST LEVEL SINCE LATE DECEMBER 1983. PALLADIUM'S FIRMNESS REFLECTS INTEREST IN ITS USE IN COLD NUCLEAR FUSION EXPERIMENTS, WHICH PROMPTED RENEWED SPECULATIVE BUYING, DEALERS SAID.

London Money Market

LONDON, APRIL 7, REUTER - MONEY MARKET INTEREST RATES WERE AROUND 1/16 POINT FIRMER IN QUIET MORNING TRADE AS THE MARKET BECAME INCREASINGLY MORE PESSIMISTIC OVER THE OUTLOOK FOR U.K. INTEREST RATES, DEALERS SAID.

COMMENTS MADE LAST NIGHT BY BANK OF ENGLAND GOVERNOR ROBIN LEIGH-Pemberton, EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER THE THREAT OF LARGE WAGE RISES, WERE COMPOUNDING MARKET SPECULATION THAT BASE RATES MAY HAVE TO RISE, TRADERS SAID.

ALSO ADDING TO MARKET DEPRESSION WERE RECENT WARNINGS FROM CITY ECONOMISTS OF A HARD LANDING FOR THE ECONOMY. THE SIX MONTH STERLING INTERBANK RATE WAS 1/16 FIRMER AT 13-3/16 1/16.

Foreign Exchange

DLR	STG	DMK	FFR	OPG
DLR	1.7045/55	1.8655/65	6.3040/70	NOON
STG	1.7025/35	3.1805/45	10.7385/500	NOON
DMK	1.8655/65	3.176/190	29.34/70	NOON
FFR	6.3085/3205	10.735/753	337.29/95	NOON
SFR				NOON
HFL 2.1100	3.5910	112.81	33.41	NOON
EDU				NOON
YEN 1.30010	7.64315	2.43132	8.20818	NOON
YEN 131.95/05	224.46/77			NOON
SDR RATE	06/04/1989	OTHERS	07/04/1989	

NEW YORK

NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY
A.BSCH COM	0	36.7
ATLANTIC R	0	90.1
AIR CORP	0	26.6
ABBOTT LAB	0	54.1
ACME CLVD	0	9.6
ADV MICRO	0	8.5
AEROPAL LAB	0	4.7
ALCA LIFE	0	51.1
ARMSTRONG	0	18.0
AIR PR-CHM	0	43.4
ALASKA AIR	0	24.5
ALBERTSONS	0	41.0
ALPHA 8-16	0	82.4
ALCAN ALUM	0	31.1
ALCO STAIN	0	26.7
AM CAP SEC	0	21.1
AM CYANID	0	52.0
AM FAMILY	0	17.0
AM HOM PRO	0	86.2
AM STNDARD	0	10.0
AM STORES	0	59.7
AM TEL-TEL	31/2	31.1
AMOCO CORP	0	42.3
AMP INC	0	41.2
AMPCO PITT	0	15.3
AMR CORP	0	59.0
AMR GEN CO	0	35.3
AMERADA HE	0	38.3
ANTHEM ELE	0	9.6
APACHE CP	0	9.1
APCAL 8-12	0	84.0
ARISTOCORP	0	39.0
ARMSTRONG	0	41.1
ASILD OIL	0	9.1
ASIA PACIF	0	26.6
ATLS CORP	0	23.2
AVERT INT	0	22.0
AVNET INC	0	24.3
AVON PRODS	0	31.0
BCE INC	0	44.4
BELL SOUTH	0	27.7
BELO CP A	0	18.3
BETH STEEL	0	23.7
BEVERLY	0	8.6
BKN BOSTON	0	26.0
BKN BOSTN-A	0	39.0
BKN N-YORK	0	44.6
BKN TR-NY	0	41.0
BKNAMERICA	0	23.6
BKNAM SPEC	0	6.4
BOEING CO	0	69.2
BOISE CASO	0	42.5
BND IN GLD	0	8.0
BORDEN	0	61.1
BOWATER	0	28.3
BR TELECOM	0	47.1
BRIGGS-STR	0	26.6
BRIST-MYER	0	47.3
BRUNSWICK	0	19.5
C 3 INC	0	10.5
C 3 HD G-EL	0	20.6
CABOT CORP	0	43.1
CAESARS WD	0	32.6
CA FREIGHT	0	22.5
CAS NAT GS	0	14.4
CATCO-CKOE	0	28.3
CATERPI TR	0	57.4
CBI IND	0	27.7
CBS	0	177.3
CENTEL CP	0	67.7
CHAMP INTL	0	30.3
CHAMP STAR	0	20.4
CHARTER CO	0	4.7
CHAS MAN	0	37.0
CHENED CP	0	33.7
CHENIC BKN	0	34.3
CHRYSLER	0	53.4
CHUBB CORP	0	24.2
CHUR FR CH	0	67.7
CIGNA CORP	0	54.5
CIR CIT ST	0	22.0
CIR CIT ST	0	43.5
CIRCLE K	0	15.7
CITICORP	0	29.0
CLARK EQUI	0	33.7
CLOROX	0	32.2
COMBLL RES	0	13
COMBLL SP	0	33.5
COM PACIFIC	0	19.5
COMCAST	0	10.1
COCA-COLA	0	34.3
COLECO	0	53.4
COLEMAN CO	0	15
COLUM BUS	0	73.3
COLUM GAS	0	47.2
CONAGRA	0	35.6
CON EDISON	0	111.0
CONTINENTAL	0	33.1
CONTEL ILLN	0	32.0
CONTEL CP	0	45.5
CONTR DATA	0	40.2
COOPER T-R	0	54.6
COOPER COM	0	22.7
CORNING GL	0	25.7
CORNING GL	0	4.3
CORNING GL	0	33.7
CORNING GL	0	53.5
CORNING GL	0	5.2
CORNING GL	0	38.6
CORNING GL	0	13.4
CORNING GL	0	14.5
CORNING GL	0	45.3
CORNING GL	0	96.0
CORNING GL	0	52.4
CORNING GL	0	58.4
CORNING GL	0	22.4
CORNING GL	0	42.6
CORNING GL	0	78.3
CORNING GL	0	28.4
CORNING GL	0	90.1
CORNING GL	0	32.2
CORNING GL	0	37.1
CORNING GL	0	27.2
CORNING GL	0	44.6
CORNING GL	0	51.3
CORNING GL	0	103.5
CORNING GL	0	17.6
CORNING GL	0	23.5
CORNING GL	0	28.0
CORNING GL	0	13.5
CORNING GL	0	26.4
CORNING GL	0	30.2
CORNING GL	0	4.2
CORNING GL	0	23.7
CORNING GL	0	43.0
CORNING GL	0	11.5
CORNING GL	0	65.7
CORNING GL	0	25.7
CORNING GL	0	28.5
CORNING GL	0	34.2
CORNING GL	0	47.0
CORNING GL	0	16.7
CORNING GL	0	13.2
CORNING GL	0	5.0
CORNING GL	0	20.2
CORNING GL	0	38.0
CORNING GL	0	47.6
CORNING GL	0	16.6
CORNING GL	0	37.5
CORNING GL	0	40.4
CORNING GL	0	3.3
CORNING GL	0	58.2
CORNING GL	0	5.2
CORNING GL	0	5.6

GEN DYNMCS	0	53/4	NAT INTERG	0	1/4	SEARS ROE	0	44/2
GEN ELECT	0	44/6	NBI CORP	0	55/5	SERV CORP	18/0	18/1
GEN HOST	0	8/7	NCR CORP	0	22/7	SA STN PAC	0	22/4
GEN HOSMAR	0	12/1	NEW ENG EL	0	15/5	SHRSN HUTT	19/3	19/4
GEN INSTR	0	29/1	NEW PLA RE	0	32/6	SHELL TRAN	0	65/0
GEN MILLS	0	59/6	NEVELL CO	0	39/4	SHER PLOD	0	39/3
GEN MOTORS	0	39/4	NEWMONT MI	0	33/6	SMITH INT	10/2	10/1
GEN SIGNAL	0	49/0	NEWMONT GLD	0	58/0	SNITRK BEC	64/1	64/3
GENCORP	0	17/4	NI MOH-10	0	73/2	SNAP ON TL	36/6	36/7
GENETECH	0	17/6	NI MOH-72	0	12/3	SOURCE CAP	37/8	37/5
GENULINE PA	0	75/2	NICOLET IN	0	31/1	SOUTHERN	23/3	23/5
GEO PMT-80	0	36/2	NICOR INC	0	22/3	SPAIN FUND	11/2	11/2
GEORGI-PAC	0	43/3	NL INDS	0	11/5	SPEERY	10/5	10/6
GIBR FL CL	0	*12	NOBLE AFF	0	12/3	SQUARE D	53/3	53/3
GOLDEN WAG	0	18/0	NORD RESOU	0	27/4	SQUIBB	29/7	29/7
GOODRICH	0	51/4	NORTHROP	0	45/2	STONE CONT	29/7	29/7
GOODYEAR	0	45/6	NORTHROP	0	43/4	SUN CO	37/6	38/0
GRACE WR	0	52/5	NORCOR CORP	0	47/4	SUNSTRAND	56/0	56/2
GRALINGER	0	31/8	OAK INDS	0	1/2	SUNSH MIN	3/3	3/4
GRUMMAN	0	20/7	OCC PETROK	0	17/7	SUPER VAL	24/1	24/3
GULF RES-C	0	11/0	OCEAN DRILL	0	27/3	SOUTHWEST	0	26/0
GULF-BESTN	0	47/6	ODEN CORP	0	20/1	SV GAS	17/6	17/6
HALLIBURTON	0	30/1	OHG ED CP	0	24/7	TDK	0	64/4
HALLWOOD	0	14/4	ORION	0	53/0	TECO ENERS	22/7	23/0
HANNA HEN	0	26/2	ORIN HATT	0	8/4	TEKTRONIX	20/6	20/7
HARRIS CP	0	27/5	ORPACARE	0	16/4	TELETYPE	349/4	350/0
HARTMANN	0	27/0	ORION PICT	0	17/5	TELEPHONIC	24/2	24/3
HEINZ NJ	0	50/0	PATINE WEB	0	4/5	TELEX CORP	0	49/0
HEL CURTIS	0	51/2	PAN AM	0	20/7	TERADYNE	11/3	11/6
HELM-PATHE	0	25/0	PANHANDLE	0	5/4	TESORO PET	11/7	12/0
HERCULES	0	46/6	PARKER DRI	0	27/3	TEX AMER B	*10	*10
HEML-PACK	0	51/7	PARKER HAN	0	5/2	TEX EAS TR	30/7	31/0
HEXCEL CP	0	29/4	PATRICK PET	0	0	TEXACO	53/4	53/4
HILLENBRND	0	29/3	PULLMAN CO	0	87/4	TEXAS IND	38/8	38/8
HILTYN HTN	0	56/2	PC INDS-96	0	11/2	TEXAS WEST	38/7	38/7
HITACHI	0	116/0	PEGASUS	0	23/7	TEKTRON	27/1	27/1
HMSDKE WTN	0	13/4	PENM CENTR	0	130/2	THOMPSON MED	0	22/3
HMSDKE-WAHNN	0	19/5	PENNAULT	0	84/6	TIDewater	9/6	9/6
HOLIDAY	0	30/2	PENNZOIL	0	21/0	TIME INCOR	112/7	113/2
HOMER DESPT	0	36/7	PEOPLES EN	0	44/5	TIMKEN	35/3	35/4
HONEYFED CP	0	33/3	PEPSICO	0	59/2	TORCHMARK	33/1	33/2
HONDA MOTR	0	28/6	PIZZER	0	56/6	TOSCO	4/5	4/5
HONEYWELL	0	70/7	PHILIPS DOD	0	119/1	TOYS R US	38/7	38/6
HOUGHTIN MI	0	44/4	PHILIP NOR	0	22/4	TRANSAHER	34/3	34/3
HOUSTON MI	0	27/7	PHILLIPS PE	0	14/0	TRANSCO EN	0	56/3
HUGHES SUP	0	18/3	PINNACLE W	0	42/4	TRANSCO EX	0	31/6
HUMANA INC	0	29/4	PITH-BOWES	0	20/1	TRAVELLERS	39/2	39/2
IBM	0	108/0	PITTSO	0	37/4	TRINITY IN	34/4	34/4
ICI PHARMA	0	6/2	POLAROID	0	21/4	TY CO	31/4	31/5
ILL PAIR CO	0	14/6	PORTLAND GE	0	43/7	TYCO LABS	34/3	34/5
ILLIN 4-08	0	17/6	PPG INDS	0	17/3	UAL CORP	116/6	116/7
INDIA GROU	0	9/4	PRIME CON	0	26/2	UUD BRAND	14/1	14/1
INGRESS-RA	0	38/0	PRIME INNS	0	21/7	UUD TECH	46/5	46/5
JEFF PILOT	0	34/0	PRIMERICA	0	91/2	UNILEVER	61/6	62/1
JER PH B-5	0	80/0	PROCT-GAMB	0	18/4	UNION CARB	29/6	30/0
JOHNSON CON	0	36/3	PUGET SP-L	0	13/7	US SHOE	18/5	18/6
JOHNSON-JNS	0	90/3	PULTE HOME	0	49/5	US AIR CP	41/4	41/5
K HART CP	0	39/3	QUAKER OAT	0	83/0	VALERO EN	15/5	15/5
KAN CT P-L	0	28/4	QUAKER COR	0	11/1	VALLEY IND	2/2	2/2
KELLWOOD	0	29/7	QUANTUM CH	0	33/0	VARCO INTL	4/2	4/2
KERR MCGEE	0	43/0	RALS PURIN	0	1/6	VARIAN ASS	26/4	26/5
KEYSTONE	0	19/1	RAMADA INN	0	67/6	V PNT PEPL	57/5	57/6
KING CLARK	0	62/3	RANGER OIL	0	53/2	WAINOC PPI	6/6	6/7
KLN R D AI	0	22/0	RAYMOND INC	0	88/6	WAL HART	33/0	33/1
KLN RID WAS	0	45/4	RAYCHEN	0	17/3	WALGREEN	35/6	35/7
KROGER CP	0	10/5	RAYMARK	0	21/3	WARNER CON	47/1	47/3
LEA ROMAL	0	17/3	RAYTHEON	0	32/1	WARNER LAW	84/7	84/7
LEHMAN	0	11/6	REYNOLD ME	0	33/4	WASTE MAN	46/1	46/1
LEHMAN	0	20/5	RJR NABISC	0	10/7	WASH GAS L	24/5	24/5
LEINCOLN LA	0	50/1	ROCHES G-E	0	18/0	WESKY INTL	6/1	6/1
LITTON IND	0	76/5	ROCKWELL	0	40/5	WEST CO	16/4	16/4
LOCKHEED	0	47/1	ROHR HAAS	0	6/7	WESTINGHOUSE	54/2	54/2
LOCITTE CP	0	38/5	ROHR INDS	0	63/1	WIDGES CON	6/5	6/6
LOEMS CORP	0	89/6	ROLLINS EN	0	16/6	WILLIAMS C	30/3	30/5
LOW-METTLER	0	30/5	ROLLINS IN	0	25/0	WILLIAMS-E	7/6	7/7
LOWE STAR	0	29/7	RORER GRP	0	30/3	WILCOX	8/6	8/6
LOWES	0	22/4	ROYAL DUTCH	0	20/5	WOLVER IN	12/7	12/7
LTD INC	0	26/0	RSS BERRIE	0	24/3	WOOLWORTH	0	49/1
LTV CORP	0	2/1	RYDER SYST	0	*06	WORLDCORP	6/6	6/6
LTV 1-25	0	28/6	RYLAND GRP	0	14/2	WRIGHT	38/2	38/2
LTV 3-058	0	10/7	S DIEG G-E	0	39/5	WYLE LABS	8/4	8/4
LUBRIZOL	0	37/2	SALOMON	0	39/7	XEROX CORP	0	59/0
LUBYS CAPS	0	25/2	SARA LEE	0	11/4	ZAPATA	0	2/6
MALAYSIA F	0	*08	SC ATPLA	0	25/2	ZAYRE CORP	0	25/3
NIGHT ASS	0	7/5	SCOTT PPR	0	69/1	ZENITH EL	0	17/6
N MARIETTA	0	45/0	SCOTTYS	0	17/2	ZERO	0	18/2
NA CON INC	0	7/5	SE BANK CO	0	39/5			
MANOR CARE	0	14/1	SEAGRAN CO	0	39/7			
MANU HANOV	0	36/0	SEAGULL EN	0	25/0			

Tehran to crack down on high prices

Iran to spend more on rebuilding oil industry

NICOSIA, Cyprus, April 7. (AP): Iran's Oil Minister, Gholamreza Agazadeh, said yesterday that rebuilding refineries and offshore platforms damaged in the Gulf war takes a high priority in the country's economic reconstruction programme, the official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Agazadeh as saying another \$714 million will be allocated for rebuilding the oil industry.

He spoke in the western city of Hamedan at the inauguration of a gas pipeline project to supply domestic needs in the region, IRNA said.

Iran's oil industry suffered about \$15 billion worth of damages during the war, according to unofficial estimates.

Iran reportedly already has spent more than \$750 million on oil industry reconstruction since a United Nations-sponsored ceasefire took effect last Aug 20 in the 8-year war with Iraq.

The Kharg island installation, the country's main oil export terminal, sustained heavy damage in Iraqi air attacks, but is

now partially operational again.

Kharg has a capacity of 6.8 million barrels of oil a day, but currently can only handle 2.5 million barrels a day. Five of the terminal's 14 berths are said to be back in operation following repairs, which are continuing.

Iran also is to award four contracts worth about \$700 million for construction and repair of offshore platforms damaged in the war.

The Salman, Abuzar and Salman platforms are to be rebuilt by foreign firms at a reported cost of \$100, 200, and 300 million respectively.

The Salman rig was hit in a 1986 Iraqi missile attack. It also was shelled by US warships and damaged in explosions triggered by US Marine Corps demolition teams last April.

Priority

Industry experts say the rig can be rebuilt in nine months and could be producing 15 months after the contract is awarded.

Several oil rigs are also planned for the Caspian Sea, where seabed oil is being

developed with assistance from the Soviet Union.

Gas exploitation also is taking a high priority.

The western Iran gas pipeline network, costing \$277 million is the biggest gas-related project undertaken by the Islamic Republic to date, IRNA said.

Last week the Maroun gas injection unit, rebuilt at a cost of \$1 billion, started operation.

The unit, in southwest Khuzestan province, can inject gas from surrounding fields into low-pressure oil fields, and thus boost Iran's recoverable oil reserves by more than 2.5 billion barrels.

Iran currently estimates its oil reserves exceed 93 billion barrels.

Meanwhile, in an effort to control runaway inflation and excessive shortages of commodities, Iran's Chief Justice Musavi Ardebili yesterday announced a new crackdown on shopkeepers who hoard goods and overcharge, Tehran Radio reported.

The broadcast, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Ardebili as saying that 7,000 in-

pectors will be chosen by the Islamic courts and deployed throughout the country to identify offenders.

He said that offenders will be tried and convicted by any of the Islamic courts or magistrates throughout the country.

The Islamic courts stand separate from the judicial courts, and are run by clerical judges familiar with Islamic law.

He said that shopkeepers were given until April 19 to put price tags on all goods, or face prosecution.

He did not say what sentences offenders would face.

Iran's economy was thrown into disarray during the 8-year Iran-Iraq war, which halted Aug 20 with a UN-mediated ceasefire.

The Iranian rial has been severely devalued. The official exchange rate is 70 rials to a dollar, but the dollar is traded at more about 1,000 rials on the black market.

Unemployment, the post-war economy, and Iran's severely devalued currency, are some of the reasons for the great shortages of goods.

Negotiators make progress on farm subsidies

GENEVA, April 7. (Reuters): World trade negotiators made significant progress on the crucial farm subsidy problem on Thursday but delegates said important issues remained for the final day.

"We are now working on a paper that is a basis for a deal," said David Woods, spokesman for the Geneva-based General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

"But there are still some quite serious problems," he added without elaborating.

Delegates from more than 100 countries have gathered for the three-day session ending today aimed at breathing new life in the so-called Uruguay round of talks due to be completed by 1990.

The negotiations have been in serious trouble since the so-called mid-term review of the round held in Montreal last December.

Subsidies

A deep rift developed between the United States and the European Economic Community over how to reduce farm subsidies. Countries represented by the influential 14-country Cairns Group, which includes Canada, Australia and Brazil, have also sought an end to the subsidies, saying they distort world trade.

GATT director-general Arthur Dunkel opened Thursday's session with a warning to delegates that progress so far had been much too slow, particularly on the issue of a short-term freeze on existing farm programmes.

After a short formal session, Dunkel held talks throughout the day and evening with delegations at the scenic lakeside GATT headquarters.

A senior Canadian source said the talks progressed well and significant progress was made on outstanding issues. "The deal on agriculture is three-quarters done," he added.

Delegates said food security was one of the key issues still on the negotiating table. Some governments, particularly Third World countries, are reluctant to submit to measures that would prevent domestic farmers from producing enough food for the country to eat.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Nigeria to get last part of ADB loan soon

LAGOS, April 7. (OPECNA): Nigeria will receive soon the last part of a \$245 million loan extended by the Africa Development Bank (ADB) for export stimulation for the country.

A source at the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) said the credit would complement the CBN's foreign input facility by serving as its main funding source.

He added that CBN would act as the executive agency for the scheme, while commercial banks would take up the role of retailers of the fund.

The release of the loan began during the third quarter of 1988, he said.

Private enterprise to boost growth

HELSINKI, April 7. (Reuters): Private enterprise should be the engine of growth to raise living standards in the world's poorest states, a United Nations agency said yesterday.

The 42 nations classed by the world body as least developed countries (LDCs) should rein in the public sector and gear fiscal, monetary, trade and licensing policy to encouraging home-grown enterprise, a meeting organised by the UN conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) concluded.

"The potential of the private enterprises of the LDCs has not been fully exploited. There could be many more and there is in our report a plea to governments of LDCs to create conditions in which private enterprise can develop," UNCTAD deputy secretary-general Yves Berthelot said.

The meeting urged LDCs to improve access to domestic and foreign finance for fledgling enterprises, through strengthening banking systems and the financial markets.

The public sector should be confined to strategic services. Industrialised countries were urged to lower or remove tariffs on exports from the LDCs and to scrap non-tariff barriers such as subsidies to domestic food producers.

Firms urged to propose aid projects

TOKYO, April 7. (Reuters): Japan, the world's biggest aid donor, cannot find enough good projects in poor countries to spend its money on and wants companies in the developed world to propose ideas that Japan can finance.

Azusa Hayashi, director of the Foreign Ministry's loan aid division, told reporters on Thursday that Japanese construction and trading firms were losing interest in aid-financed projects in developing countries.

"The domestic economy is in good shape and there are lots of projects and jobs in Japan, so they don't have to go abroad," Hayashi said.

He said most developing countries lacked the ability to formulate good development project ideas and Japanese aid officials had traditionally relied heavily on private companies to propose projects.

"I request the co-operation of Japanese companies and of US and European companies. If they have a good project, bring it to Japan and let us know," Hayashi said.

Demand higher than 'OPEC quota'

NICOSIA, April 7. (Reuters): Saudi Arabia said yesterday it had orders from customers above its OPEC quota but would abide by this limit agreed for the first half of 1989.

In a statement, Saudi Oil Minister Hisham Nazer said the kingdom had orders above the 4,524 million barrels per day (BPD) limit set by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

But Saudi Arabia would adhere to its quota, Nazer said.

"Oil buyers are currently competing to buy crude from Saudi Arabia, far higher than its current quota," the official Saudi Press Agency quoted Nazer as saying.

"The Kingdom will continue to abide by (its output quota)...to keep the oil market strong," he added.

Greece to bring troubled bank under state control

ATHENS, Greece, April 7. (AP): National Economy Minister Panayiotis Roumeliotis yesterday announced the government's intention to bring the scandal-ridden and heavily indebted Bank of Crete under state control.

Roumeliotis told reporters that the government decided on the action in order to "secure the legal interests of its depositors, retain the status of its employees and secure the bank's business performance."

The state takeover will have to be approved by parliament.

The move is expected to keep the floundering institution from going under and restore confidence in a banking system shaken by the financial scandal.

The Bank of Crete was run by fugitive banker-publisher George Koskotas, who fled Greece in November after being indicted in a \$200-million fraud, forgery and embezzlement scandal.

Koskotas, 34, who was arrested in the United States in a Salem, Massachusetts, jail awaiting the outcome of a Greek petition for his extradition.

Scandal

The scandal involving Koskotas and the Bank of Crete has undermined public trust in Premier Andreas Papandreu's socialist government since it erupted last October. It has led to the resignation of eight cabinet members.

Four directors of state-run public corporations, including the post office and telephone company, have been jailed for depositing money in the bank at lower than normal interest rates when the institution was encountering cash flow problems.

"Public sector banks will contribute to the increase of the bank's share capital, estimated to be on the order of about 30 billion drachmas (\$190 million)," the national economy minister said.

Roumeliotis said a ceiling of four billion drachmas (\$25 million) had been set for individual bank contributions.

Koskotas has been charged with using bank funds to build a publishing empire and acquire other interests.

In press interviews from jail, Koskotas has claimed that Papandreu and other senior government officials received millions of dollars in payoffs and authorised the looting of the bank.

Roumeliotis added that 50 per cent of the "demands and deposits" of the public sector corporations would be converted into shares.

Banks expected to delay new lending

IMF mulling drastic tactics

LONDON, April 7. (Reuters): Banks are unlikely to be quick off the mark in releasing large amounts of new loan money to the Third World as a result of the latest US proposals to tackle the international debt crisis, European bankers say.

Despite a call from Western governments to back the US plan, bankers are expected to delay new lending in most cases until the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank devise a plan to support debt reduction schemes, a process which could take months.

"Banks don't see new money as the solution," said Richard O'Brien, economist at American Express Bank Ltd.

"The reaction is, simply, that banks are still reluctant to extend new money to the Third World," a British banker added.

The IMF interim and development committees, which together represent both creditor and debtor nations, have pointed in meetings in Washington this week to new bank lending as a key feature in attacking the \$1.3 trillion Third World debt.

A development committee communique after the meetings

called on "commercial banks to provide more diversified financial support, including new lending and debt/or service reduction."

But European bankers canvassed by Reuters said that neither private nor official creditors would be able to meet debtor expectations for immediate action.

Reforms

US Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady announced the US proposal on March 10, saying IMF and World Bank funds could be used to support Third World debt reduction schemes in exchange for economic reforms.

The IMF is mulling drastic tactics to persuade banks to back a new US initiative to slash Third World debt, monetary officials said.

In what would be a sharp reversal of policy, the IMF is leaning towards making loans to countries even if they have no plan in place for paying overdue interest to the banks.

By in effect condoning bad behaviour, the agency that traditionally sees itself as the policeman of the world financial system is seeking to shift the

balance of power in debt talks from the banks to the debtors — and to itself.

"The IMF has become powerless," one official grumbled. "It's been taken hostage by the banks."

While major creditor nations have broadly supported the proposal, Italy, West Germany and Britain oppose any use of lending agency funds to guarantee Third World interest payments and warn of a possible shift in risk from banks to the taxpayer.

Banks have also become increasingly worried that discord among creditor nations will lead borrowers with high expectations for quick progress to stop making debt payments.

"The problem is that Brady spoke too soon — he talked about World Bank and IMF (support) before the agencies themselves understood what was being proposed," one British banker said.

"That's led to very high expectations in the Third World, and the statements out of Washington over the past few days seem to have been intended to defuse those expectations," he added.

Planning faulted: Soviet economist

Economic prospects gloomy

MOSCOW, April 7. (Reuters): The Soviet economy will perform worse than ever this year and no real progress can be made until central planning is abandoned, a senior Soviet economist said in an article published yesterday.

Vasily Selyunin, writing in the daily Sotsialisticheskaya Industriya, called for immediate major reforms to eliminate chronic shortages, particularly ending government ministries' control over production.

Selyunin, whose frequent articles on the economy have earned him a reputation as a radical, said the Soviet Union's five-year plans had manifestly failed to provide well-being for its citizens in more than 60 years.

"We have failed to fulfil 11 plans already and there is virtually no chance of fulfilling the 12th," he wrote. "On the contrary, we can expect that 1989 will be the worst year of any we have seen."

Economists, he wrote, had to

face the reality that real reforms would be constantly delayed unless centrally-controlled economic structures were dismantled.

Reforms

"These things are incompatible. Either we have direct planning or proceed with reforms," he wrote. "If, god forbid, we once again set down in the 13th five-year plan what and how much to produce, then, as in the past, there can be no independence of enterprises and no market relations."

Selyunin's articles over the past year have called for a systematic overhaul of bureaucratic structures and introduction of market-based principles, particularly initiatives from below.

His ideas on structural changes are similar to those of senior Kremlin economic adviser Leonid Abalkin. But Abalkin, director of the Institute of Economics at the Academy of Sciences, has not suggested abandoning central planning.

Selyunin said a priority was

reducing the budget deficit, estimated at 100 billion roubles (\$160 billion).

He praised the leadership's pledges to cut military spending and, in line with some Western estimates, put its share of the national income at 20 per cent.

Selyunin also backed closing perennial loss-making enterprises and said market forces should determine the price of scarce consumer goods.

But the key reform, he wrote, was moving quickly to slash the power of government ministries, many of them obstructing Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's "perestroika" programme of economic and political reforms.

Scheme

"While such a scheme is being worked out, the ministries would have life easy and, of course, reforms would be delayed...we have no such cushion. We must embark on economic reforms today and not spend months about it," he wrote.

Eastern deal again hits snags

NEW YORK, April 7. (AP): For the second time in a week, former baseball commissioner Peter V. Ueberroth thought he had a deal to purchase Eastern Airlines only to see the agreement with Texas Air Corp. chairman Frank Lorenzo hit snags at the last minute.

A source familiar with the negotiations said the two sides reached an accord on Tuesday night and were set to make the announcement on Wednesday. The source said the deal began to unravel changing the terms of the agreement.

"Both sides thought they had a deal but there were some sticking points that kept negotiations continuing instead of concluding," the source said.

Ueberroth, who returned to New York late Tuesday night from his California home, began negotiations with Lorenzo on Wednesday morning and continued them until around 8 pm (0000 GMT). The source told the Associated Press that negotiations were to resume yesterday morning.

"They don't have a deal," the source said. "There's still negotiations and sticking points. It's not done."

Sources close to Texas Air, however, said Ueberroth himself raised minor sticking points that kept the deal from being consummated.

Deal

"Ueberroth is the one who is nipping the deal to death," said a source close to the company.

Texas Air spokesman Art Kent in Houston said the company declined comment on the negotiations.

Union and airline sources had indicated late Tuesday night and throughout Wednesday that a sale to the Ueberroth Group was virtually certain.

Bruce Zirinsky, a bankruptcy attorney representing Eastern, said an accord on the sale of the carrier was "likely imminent." He didn't name the suitor but sources have said it was the Ueberroth Group, which made and later withdrew a \$464-million offer for Eastern last week.

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 06/04/89			
B.No.	Ships Name	Agent	Tel. No.
5	Ibn Al Roomi	KSA	4843150
13	Mandama	Algh Barwil	4842988
14	Ibn Al Hailham	KSA	4843150
17	Hibooob	KSA	4843150
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUWAIKH PORT			
ETA	Ships Name	Agent	Tel. No.
6/4	Medea	GH & Q	4347815
7/4	Therassia	KSA	4843150
SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIBA PORT			
B.No.	Ships Name	Agent	Tel. No.
2	Sparkle Sun	ISA	2441860
9	Marsak Sentosa	Algh Barwil	4843988
11	Laresti	Algh Barwil	4842988
12	Lok Vivek	RSMS	2423642
18	Lotus Dawn	Al Kamal	2425437
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIBA PORT			
ETA	Ships Name	Agent	Tel. No.
6/4	Capetan Alexandros	Algh Barwil	4842988
7/4	Sunset	Algh Barwil	4842988
10/4	Merzario Italia	Al Kamal	2425437
9/4	Qatari Ibn Al Fuja'a	UASC	4843150
9/4	Ibn Al Roomi	UASC	4843150
4/4	Driver	M.A. Bahar	2433881
10/4	Lokris	ISA	2441860
11/4	Barzan	UASC	4843150

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TV CORNER

This week on KTV 2

- SUNDAY**
8.00 Holy Quran
8.10 Islamic Horizon
8.20 Cartoons
8.30 Scientific Eye: "Plants for Food" A look at plant cultivation.
9.00 News in English
9.40 Ahadith Qadsiya: religious programme
9.50 Murder, She Wrote: "Mourning Among the Visitors." A rich playwright's lawyer dies in mysterious circumstances. Jessica is asked to help find the killer. Starring: Angela Lansbury.
10.30 Nature Watch: "Rudy Kingfisher." A look at a species of birds.
11.00 Eisenhower and Lutz: A new series about a budding lawyer and the start of his career.
11.30 Best-Seller: "Glory Enough for All." Part one. Set in 1920s, it tells the story of the discovery of insulin.
1.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/ Holy Quran/Closedown
- MONDAY**
8.00 Holy Quran
8.10 Islamic Horizon
8.20 Cartoons
8.30 Wild America: "Northwood Lynx." A look at lynx, wild cats, in North America.
9.00 News in English
9.40 Ahadith Qadsiya: religious programme
9.45 American Basketball
10.30 Flat 227: Comedy about the residents of a building. Mary pretends to be rich to get a big contract.
11.00 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: "In the Driver's Seat." A racing champion believes he has been cheated by his friends and plots against them.
11.30 L'ete Prochain: French feature film, starring: Claudia Cardinale, Gerome Ange. The

movie examines human relationships, particularly the man-woman ones, and talks about the differences between married couples.

1.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/ Closedown

TUESDAY
8.00 Holy Quran
8.10 Islamic Horizon
8.20 Cartoons
8.30 Captain Power: a sci-fi adventure set in 2147, when Lord Dread wages war against the human race. Captain Power attempts to stop his advance.
9.00 News in English
9.30 Ahadith Qadsiya: religious programme
10.30 The Fourth Arm: Set in World War II, it tells the story of a British officer commissioned to destroy an ammunition factory.
11.00 Bastin' Loose: Comedy with Larry Williams. Nicky makes an unprofitable sale.

9.00 News in English
9.30 Ahadith Qadsiya: religious programme
10.30 The Fourth Arm: Set in World War II, it tells the story of a British officer commissioned to destroy an ammunition factory.
11.00 Bastin' Loose: Comedy with Larry Williams. Nicky makes an unprofitable sale.



On Friday, Hunter returns with more action as he chases a bank robber on KTV2.



Mary pretends to be a wealthy woman to get a contract for her husband in an episode of 227, on Monday night, KTV2.

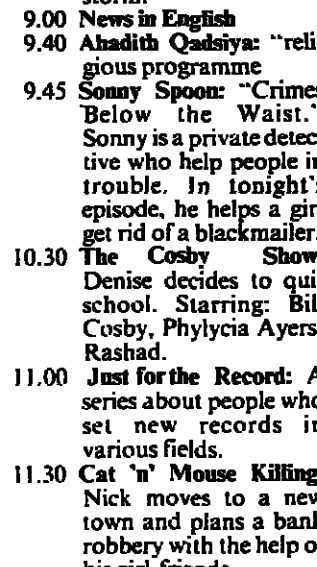
11.30 Q.E.D.: "The Magic of Memory." Can you improve your memory? Scientists believe it can and work out a series of experiments.
12.00 The Equaliser: "Riding the Elephant." A Thai couple are being exploited by their boss and McCall is asked to step in ... Starring: Edward Woodward.



On Friday, Hunter returns with more action as he chases a bank robber on KTV2.

1.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/ Holy Quran/Closedown

WEDNESDAY
8.00 Holy Quran
8.10 Islamic Horizon
8.20 Cartoons
8.30 Danger Bay: "Eye of the Storm." Nicole finds a friend in the midst of a storm.
9.00 News in English
9.40 Ahadith Qadsiya: religious programme
9.45 Sonny Spoon: "Crimes Below the Waist." Sonny is a private detective who help people in trouble. In tonight's episode, he helps a girl get rid of a blackmailer.
10.30 The Cosby Show: Denise decides to quit school. Starring: Bill Cosby, Phylicia Ayers-Rashad.
11.00 Just for the Record: A series about people who set new records in various fields.
11.30 Cat 'n' Mouse Killing: Nick moves to a new town and plans a bank robbery with the help of his girl-friends.
1.00 News Summary/Holy Quran/Closedown

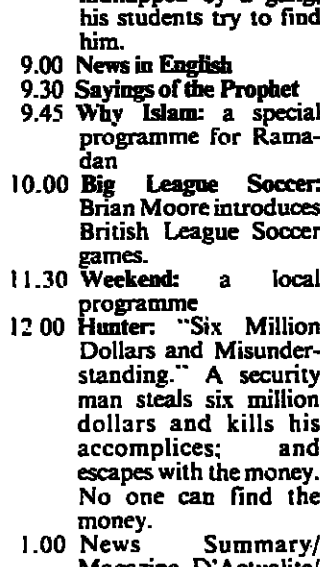


On Friday, Hunter returns with more action as he chases a bank robber on KTV2.

THURSDAY
8.00 Holy Quran
8.10 Islamic Horizon
8.20 Cartoons
8.30 Munsters Today: "Designing Munsters." Hermann believes his wife is cheating on him; she claims she is studying to be a designer.
9.00 News in English
9.40 Ahadith Qadsiya: religious programme
9.45 The Beauty and the Beast: "Ashes, Ashes." Vincent saves a Russian defector's life but things go wrong when the man turns violent.
10.30 Paul Daniels Magic Show: British magician Daniels presents this show featuring several illusions.
11.30 Late Night Movie: "Venice." Case of Tony Simo. Starring: Brett Davis, Roxanne Hart. The parents of a boy die in a shootout; though he is on the side of the law, he is taken in for questioning for his alleged involvement with a criminal.
1.00 News Summary/Holy Quran/Closedown

FRIDAY
8.00 Holy Quran
8.10 Islamic Horizon
8.20 Cartoons
8.30 Intergang: a professor is kidnapped by a gang; his students try to find him.
9.00 News in English
9.30 Sayings of the Prophet
9.45 Why Islam: a special programme for Ramadan
10.00 Big League Soccer: Brian Moore introduces British League Soccer games.
11.30 Weekend: a local programme
12.00 Hunter: "Six Million Dollars and Misunderstanding." A security man steals six million dollars and kills his accomplices; and escapes with the money. No one can find the money.
1.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/ Holy Quran/Closedown

SUNDAY
8.00 Holy Quran
8.10 Islamic Horizon
8.20 Cartoons
8.30 Scientific Eye: "Plants for Food" A look at plant cultivation.
9.00 News in English
9.40 Ahadith Qadsiya: religious programme
9.50 Murder, She Wrote: "Mourning Among the Visitors." A rich playwright's lawyer dies in mysterious circumstances. Jessica is asked to help find the killer. Starring: Angela Lansbury.
10.30 Nature Watch: "Rudy Kingfisher." A look at a species of birds.
11.00 Eisenhower and Lutz: A new series about a budding lawyer and the start of his career.
11.30 Best-Seller: "Glory Enough for All." Part one. Set in 1920s, it tells the story of the discovery of insulin.
1.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/ Holy Quran/Closedown



On Friday, Hunter returns with more action as he chases a bank robber on KTV2.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 11.00 Holy Quran
11.30 Al Madrasah al Muhammadiyah: religious serial
12.15 Cartoon
12.30 Cultural film
1.30 Cartoon serial
2.00 Al Nabi Ha Hina: historical serial, starring Mahmoud Yaseen, Madiha Kamel, Amina Rizk, Ibtihal Deeni
3.15 Daerat Al Naat: Arabic serial, starring Talhat Hamdi, Samar Sami, Rashid Asaf
4.30 Musabaqat Al Ramadan
5.00 Al Rihaya: Arabic serial, starring Yusuf Shaban, Salah Saadani, Ahmad Maher
5.50 Hadith Deeni
6.00 Quran Al Kareem
6.30 Safinah Al Asdiqah: cartoon serial
6.55 B'ad Al Iftar: Hadith Deeni
7.15 Al Tam'aen: serial



Mahmoud Mursi stars in the daily Arabic serial Al Talathiya (Najeeb Mahfouz) at 12 midnight, KTV1

for children, starring Khalid Al Obaid, Ali Mufeedi, Muna Essa.

8.00 Noor al Islam
8.35 Security and Citizens
9.30 Musabaqat Ramadan

10.00 News in Arabic
10.50 A'ad Wa Lakin: Arabic serial, starring Ghanem Al Saleh, Hayat Al Fahad, Maryam Ghabdan, Dawood Hussein.

11.45 Asakum An Awada, presented by Rasha Majidi.

- 12.00 Al Talathiya: daily serial, featuring Mahmoud Mursi, Ma'ali Zayed.
1.00 News Summary
2.05 World News via satellite
2.30 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

- 8.00 Holy Quran
8.10 Duck Tales
8.30 Animals of Africa
9.00 News in English
9.30 Ahadith Qadsiya: Hadith
9.45 Italian Football
10.30 Reaching for the Skies: "Pioneers." A look at the history of aviation.
11.30 Made-for-TV Movie: "Legal Eagles" starring: Daryl Hannah, Stephen Hill, David Clennon.
1.00 News in Brief/Holy Quran/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

BBC World Services

- 0000 Newswatch
30 Personal View
45 Recording of the Week (ex 8th Grand National Preview)
0100 News Summary followed by Outlook
25 Financial News
30 Life Along the Line (ex 29th Poetry of the Century)
45 Book Choice
50 New ideas
0200 World News
09 British Press Review
15 Network UK
30 People and Politics
0300 World News
09 News about Britain
15 The World Today
30 The Vintage Chart Show
0400 Newswatch
30 Here's Humph! (ex 8th Grand National Preview)
45 Personal View
0500 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 Financial News
40 Words of Faith
45 The World Today
0600 Newswatch
30 Meridian
0700 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 From the Weeklies
45 Network UK
0800 World News
09 Words of Faith
15 A Jolly Good Show
0900 World News
09 British Press Review
15 The World Today
30 Financial News followed by

Sports Roundup
45 Personal View
1000 News Summary followed by Here's Humph!
15 Letter from America
30 People and Politics

1100 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Life Along the Line (ex 29th Poetry of the Century)
30 Meridian
1200 Newswatch
15 Multitrack 3
45 Sports Roundup
1300 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 Network UK
45 Sportsworld
1400 News Summary followed by Sportsworld cont'd
1500 Newswatch
15 Sportsworld cont'd
1600 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Sportsworld cont'd
1700 World News
09 Book Choice
15 The Ken Bruce Show
45 Sports Roundup
1800 Newswatch
30 Jazz for the Asking (ex 1st and 8th Composer of the Month)
1900 News Summary followed by Body and Soul: 15th Who Was Hitler? 22nd and 29th Opera of the Week
45 Personal View (ex 1st and 8th Play of the Week cont'd)
2000 World News
09 From Our Own Correspondent

25 Words of Faith
30 Meridian
English
MORNING
0800 Opening
0820 Songs and Music
0830 News in English
0840 Songs and Music
0845 Daily Programme
0900 Cultural Horizon
0930 Reggae Rock
1000 Our Press Today
1005 Songs and Music
1100 Closedown
EVENING
2100 Opening
2105 Kuwait
2130 News
2145 Point of View
2155 Songs and Music
2200 Kuwait in a Week
2215 Rock On
2245 Daily Programme
2300 Strictly Romantic
2330 Amazing Fact
2400 Closedown

Urdu
1900 Opening
1910 Beheten Quol
1925 Songs
1935 Press Report
1940 Jaizah
2000 News in Urdu
2020 Songs
2040 Dhanak
2100 Closedown

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Night of the Creeps
Starring: Jason, Steve Marshall, Jill Tyler

Al Salmiya
Taming of the Scrooge
Starring: Adriano Seliniano

Al Hamra
Urban Warriors
Starring: Karl Langdon, Deborah Keith

Drive-In
Al Duniya Jinah Yamama (Arabic)
Starring: Mahmoud Abdul Aziz, Mervat Ameen

Al Firdous
Makkar (Hindi)
Starring: Rajesh Roshan, Bindiya Goswami

Fahad
Al Sadaf Pharmacy
Makkah St.
Old Khatan
Al Fahad Pharmacy
Khatan
Jahra
Al Nahj Pharmacy
Area 4

Less than Zero
Al Jahra
Rambo III

Granada
Dragon Force
Salaikhikhat
Amber Al Maut (Arabic)
Al Jleeb
Dragonet
Ahmadi Drive-in
Final Justice

PRAYERS

Fajr	4.07 am
Zuhr	11.50
Asr	3.23 pm
Maghreb	6.12
Isha	7.29

RAMADAN TIMINGS

Imsak	3.59 am
Ifar	6.11 pm

KTV1 highlights in Ramadan

SUNDAY
The Story of Islam: a religious feature focussing on the religion.

Sahab Al Soorah: Arabic feature film, starring Ahmad Mazhar, Huda Sultan, Salah Qabel, Muna Abdul Ghani.

MONDAY
Quran and Science: "Soorah Malek". Prepared and presented by Ahmad Shawk Ibrahim. Variety show featuring Ahmed Asqaf, hosted by Amal Abdullah.

TUESDAY
Islam and Muslims Around the World, a weekly religious feature focussing on Islam in

various countries. This week, at 8.15 pm, a look at the life of Muslims in Thailand.

Wadi Al Ghazlan, a bedouin serial, will be screened at 1 am. Part One stars Mahmoud Saeed, Sabah Jazairi, Adeeb Qaddura; story and direction are by Kamal Al Laham.

WEDNESDAY
With Students, a weekly programme for students, features a competition between schools. It has been made by the Ministry of Education. Sabratna Al Laila: a variety show presented by Nirvana Idrees, it features an interview with Ghanem Al Saleh.

THURSDAY
Alwan, prepared by Mohammad Saeed Fares.

With Islam, prepared and presented by Dr. Khalid Al Madhkour: Al Ab' Al Sharay: Arabic feature film, starring Mahmoud Yassin, Nadiyah Lutfi, Shukri Sarhan.

FRIDAY
Religious seminar at 8 pm is followed by a feature on The Family in Kuwait. Wrestling is at 10.50 pm, and this is followed by Al Qarqayyan, a local feature presented by Amina Al Sharrah.

Al Ba'ad Al Rabeh, Arabic play, starring Yusuf Shaban, Yusra, Mahmoud Wafi.



Al Ab' Al Sharay: Arabic feature film, starring Mahmoud Yassin, Nadiyah Lutfi, Shukri Sarhan.

Expert studies hotel training needs

ON the invitation of Kuwait Hotels Company, Gian Luigi Baroncini, an expert in the field of human resources and manpower development is presently in Kuwait.

Gian Luigi Baroncini, stationed at the Paris office of Horwath & Horwath Hotel Consultants, is studying the training needs for the hotels of KHC which include the KHC Catering Division, Khiran Resort, Bayan Palace (housekeeping & catering services), Airport Hotel, Messilah Beach Hotel and the Kuwait International Hotel.

One of the main objectives of Kuwait Hotels Company is to establish a training and development division in particular with regard to the future expansion of the company.

Baroncini is a university graduate from Bologna and Urbino, Italy, and studied humanities. His appointments include leading positions in the ILO - International Labour Organisation, IHA - Inter-



national Hotel Association and WTO - World Tourism Organisation. He has given number of lectures and speeches on labour and manpower issues and problems on training and, in particular, on management and development of human resources. He is an adviser to the Paris branch of Cornell University.



Members of a high level Egyptian tourist delegation recently came to Kuwait. They were welcomed by Ali Eweis, resident manager of Kuwait International Hotel. (L to R): Abdel Hamid Yahya, tourist counsellor, Embassy of Egypt, Ali Eweis, Mohamed Nassim, president, Sinai Hotels & Diving Clubs and Anis Salameh, chairman of Arab Hotels Union.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Free Atelier Studio
UNTIL April 8: A Jordanian art exhibition is open at the Free Atelier Studio, Gulf St., daily from 9 am to 12 noon and 7 to 10 pm. The show has been organised by the Jordanian embassy in co-operation with the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters.

Ghadir Gallery
UNTIL April 13: Yemeni artist Abdullah Al Amin will show his latest paintings at the Ghadir Gallery, Salmiya Complex. The exhibition will be open from 9 am to 12.00 noon and 7-10 pm.

Kuwait Science Museum
OPEN Saturday to Wednesday, 8-9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue

whale. Closed on Thursday and Friday.

Islamic Arts Museum
SAT - Thurs.: 9 am to 12 noon and 7.00 to 10.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment.

Tareq Rajab Museum
RAMADAN timings Sat - Thurs.: 9 am to 12 noon and 7-10 pm. Collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world on show.

Sadu House
SAT - Thurs.: 9 am to 12 noon; 7 to 10 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts - rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

SOCIAL

St. Georges Day
APRIL 20: KLT celebrates St Georges Day at Unity Cen-

tre, Ahmadi. Entertainment and refreshments. To join them, call 3983724; 3985964

Summer Affair '89
FIRST Day of Eid: The Weekend Club will host the Summer Affair '89 at Regency Palace Hotel. Top Ranks and Perfect Strangers in attendance. Highlights include Summer Queen contest, gala buffet dinner. Tel: Hilary Baretto - 5741380.

Bayanlan
APRIL 21: A get-together for KAPILKU members will be held at the Church Hall from 2.30 to 6.30 pm. All Filipinos are welcome. Free admission.

Remo's Show
MAY 11: The Expatriates Club will hold a dinner-musical at the SAS Hotel. Remo, India's pop-star will give a recital. Bands in attendance: City Limits and Perfect Strangers. For further information contact 2415439.

May Queen
MAY 11: Kuwait Goans will crown the May Queen at Messilah Beach Hotel. Bands in attendance: Top Ranks and Next of Kin. For details call 4881387.

Casuals Cricket Club
MAY 18: 8 pm. Messilah Beach Hotel: Annual dinner with special guest speaker Brian Close, former captain of England and Yorkshire. Live music. For tickets and information call Simon Clements - 5333248; or Val Tudball - 5327159.

HOTELS

At the International
LA PALMA: Iftar buffet from a different country each week; begins in Egypt and goes on to Saudi Arabia, the Emirates and Kuwait. It will be open from 6 pm to 3 am for suhoor.

La Patisserie: Hollander
tarte is cake of the week. Open from 8 am to 10.30 pm.

At the Plaza
NOURA Terrace: 7 pm to 12 midnight. Surrounded by waterfalls, it provides a relaxing atmosphere to play backgammon or smoke the bubble-bubble pipe. Also features special Lebanese mezzeh.

Loulwah Corner: breakfast buffet or a la carte; snacks, sandwiches and cakes on offer. Al Dallah: speciality "plat du jour"; special buffet featuring Arabic, Continental and Asian food; for breakfast and suhoor.

All entries for the What's On
column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.



Sheraton in Bombay

THE Welcomgroup SeaRock, a part of the premier businessman's hotel chain in India - the Welcomgroup, is now a Sheraton hotel in Bombay, a centre of business and industry. The hotel's sales manager

Franz Mascarenhas and accommodation manager Shishir Bajaj began a Gulf tour on March 17. They visited Bahrain, Doha, Muscat, Dubai, Abu Dhabi and are now in Saudi Arabia.

The hotel has been upgraded to meet the needs of the executive traveller and includes business facilities and specially designed rooms for the discerning traveller.

By Chrissy Iley

GLORIA ESTEFAN is the old-fashioned girl of pop, an anachronism who has triumphed unexpectedly in an industry which tends to prefer the manufactured image to the real thing.

She doesn't strike poses. She doesn't have affairs—indeed, she's been happily married to fellow musician Emilio Estefan for 11 years. She's not even conventionally beautiful, just approachably attractive, with her wide nose, intelligent brown eyes and curly black hair.

True, her life does have a kind of romance—but one more in keeping with a Victorian morality tale than an Eighties pop star biography. No material girl this, in spite of yet another hit, *Anything For You*, and a number one album.

Pain

Her rock ballads have recurrent themes of devotion and self-sacrifice, hardly the stuff of the usual Top Ten hits. "I know the emotions of pain fairly well," admits Gloria, now 31. "Sometimes when something happens to someone you love, it hurts more than going through it yourself."

I had no adolescence. I went from the age of 13 looking after my sick father until he died five years later. He was suffering from a disease similar to multiple sclerosis. His dementia was rapid, he couldn't speak, walk or feed himself.

"It is something which is so painful I could never write a song about it directly. I learned to deal with these powerful emotions at an early age. Now the pain comes out through other emotions people can more easily relate to."

Gloria was an introverted, frumpy child who barely knew the father she nursed. He

Miami nice!

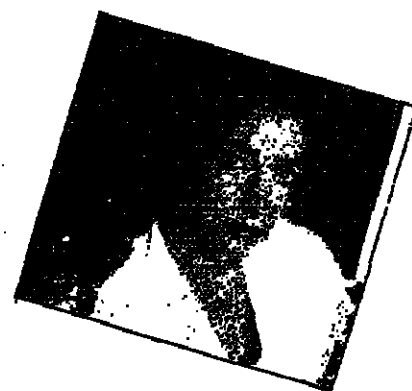
Gloria Estefan triumphs in a world which prefers hype to the real thing

spent the first years of her life in a Cuban jail as a political dissident while the rest of the family had emigrated to Miami. After his release, he became an American citizen. But he was then sent to Vietnam where he contracted the disease that eventually killed him.

During his illness, Gloria's mother worked all day and studied all evening to become a teacher. "I was the only one there for him," says Gloria. "When he died I suddenly had a role, apart from looking after people. Suddenly I could have fun." But not too much fun.

One of her first excursions after her father's death was to a friend's wedding where she met Emilio. No one could have been more flattered than Gloria when he mentioned his band was short of a singer.

"I sang in Emilio's band for two years before we started dating. He was such a womaniser and always interested in older women. But he was attracted to me because I was so mature for my years, and although he's seven years older, we never noticed the difference. I still never thought I had a



chance with him, especially the way I looked."

She was short, chubby, with thick glasses, and an unflattering bob haircut. With extraordinary self-will, Gloria set about changing every feature that she did not like. The wild hair is not naturally curly and the slim thighs have spent an hour pumping on a cycle machine each morning.

Success did not come easily either. She spent seven years singing in Spanish at weddings, gradually developing a distinctive salsa disco style before maturing into today's ballad singer.

While building Gloria's confidence, Emilio also built his wife into one of America's biggest singing stars.

Here truly is the most conventional of love affairs; she has only ever been in love with Emilio. "But I know only too well the sort of person I would have been without him—basically a complete nervous wreck. It is a tempestuous relationship. He's left me several times, he's got a terrible temper. But he always calms down quickly, always comes back."



Estefan: an old-fashioned girl of pop

Bangles slip, but Madonna holds on

LONDON, (AP): Madonna's *Like A Prayer* held onto the top spot on the British pop singles record chart for the fourth straight week.

Straight Up by Paula Abdul moved up two notches to second position, followed by Keep On Movin' by Soul II Soul and Caron Wheeler. This Time I Know It's For Real by Donna Summer and Eternal Flame by Bangles.

Making their first appearance in the top 10 this week were "I Beg Your Pardon" by Kon Kan and Pat and Mick's "I Haven't Stopped Dancing Yet."

Meanwhile in New York, *Girl You Know It's True* took Milli Vanilli to the top of the pop singles record charts in the United States. The disc hopped up from second place a week ago.

The Look by Roxette moved up one notch to second place on the Cash Box magazine chart. Eternal Flame by the Bangles slipped from number one to third position.

Soaring fast up the top 10 list was *Like A Prayer* by Madonna, up from 11th to 5th.

The week's only other newcomer to the top 10 was Stand by REM up from 12th to 6th.

Keith Whitley's *I'm No Stranger To The Rain* took over the number one spot on the Cash Box magazine country-and-western singles chart. Down That Road Tonight by the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band was second. Hank Williams Jr., in a duet with his father Hank Williams Sr., was third with *There's A Tear In My Beer*.

Top Ten UK

This week's top 10 singles, as listed by Our Price Music Ltd., the national music retail chain, with last week's placings in parentheses:

- (1) *Like A Prayer*—Madonna (Sire)
- (4) *Straight Up*—Paula Abdul (A&M)
- (5) *Keep On Movin'*—Soul II Soul and Caron Wheeler (10 records)
- (3) *This Time I Know It's For Real*—Donna Summer (Warner Bros.)
- (9) *Eternal Flame*—Bangles (CBS)
- (15) *I Beg Your Pardon*—Kon Kan (Atlantic)
- (2) *Too Many Broken Hearts*—Jason Donovan (PWL)
- (7) *Paradise City*—Guns N' Roses (Geffen)
- (10) *Don't Be Cruel*—Bobby Brown (MCA)
- (19) *I Haven't Stopped Dancing Yet*—Pat and Mick (PWL)

The top 10 pop singles, as rated by Cash Box magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

- (2) *Girl You Know It's True*—Milli Vanilli (Arista)
- (3) *The Look*—Roxette (Emi)
- (1) *Eternal Flame*—The Bangles (Columbia)
- (5) *She Drives Me Crazy*—Fine Young Cannibals (Isis)
- (11) *Like A Prayer*—Madonna (Sire-Warner Brothers)
- (12) *Stand*—R.E.M. (Warner Brothers)
- (4) *My Heart Can't Tell You No*—Rod Stewart (Warner Brothers)
- (6) *The Living Years*—Mike And The Mechanics (Atlantic)
- (9) *Walk The Dinosaur*—Was (Not Was) (Chrysalis)
- (10) *Dreamin'*—Vanessa Williams (Wing-Polygram)

The top 10 country-western singles, as rated by Cash Box magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

- (3) *I'm No Stranger To The Rain*—Keith Whitley (RCA)
- (1) *Down That Road Tonight*—Nitty Gritty Dirt Band (Warner Brothers)
- (5) *There's A Tear In My Beer*—Hank Williams Jr. (Duet with Hank Williams Sr.) (Warner Brothers-Curb)
- (2) *Baby's Gotten Good At Goodbye*—George Strait (MCA)
- (8) *The Church On Cumberland Road*—Shenandoah (Columbia)
- (6) *Who You Gonna Blame It On This Time*—Vern Gosdin (Columbia)
- (11) *Tell It Like It Is*—Billy Joe Royal (Atlantic America)
- (4) *Heartbreak Hill*—Emmylou Harris (Reprise)
- (7) *From The Word Go*—Michael Martin Murphy (Warner Brothers)
- (12) *Don't Toss Us Away*—Patty Loveless (MCA)

Annie's new career

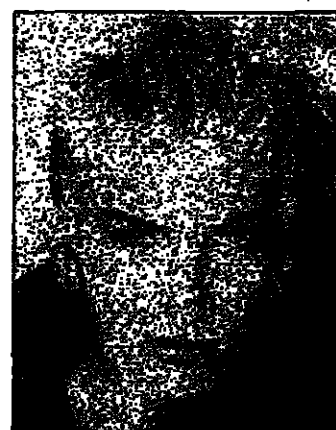
By Peter Usber

SINGER Annie Lennox, who lost her baby in December, is hoping to launch a new career as an actress. Later this year the Eurythmics star will be seen in a film of Harold Pinter's play *The Room*. Annie, 34, appears with Linda Hunt, who won an Oscar for *The Year of Living Dangerously*.

The Room was shot in Canada two years ago and Aberdeen-born Annie hopes more film offers will follow. She was offered the part by Hollywood director Robert Altman and appears as the sinister Mrs Sands.

Annie had a small part in the big budget Al Pacino film *Revolution* but she said of *The Room*: "I got as big a kick out of making that as appearing on stage."

She has no plans to quit pop music. She starts work on an album soon and the Eurythmics are likely to tour at Christmas.



Annie Lennox

Madonna repents

By Tony Parsons

THE most successful female singer in the history of the record industry is now 30, a born-again brunette and desperate to be seen as a serious artist. Madonna Louise Veronica Ciccone wants you to love her for her mind.

At her very best—*"Holiday"*, *"Angel"*, *"Dress You Up"*—Madonna has made some of the most enchanting pop music of the age, its exuberance always etched with yearning, but there has been too much waste along the way.

As a result of her divorce from the excitable Thespian Sean Penn and her decidedly shaky film career, *"Like A Prayer"* is a crucial album for Madonna.

Being the high priestess of

pop bimbos is no longer good enough for her. On *"Like A Prayer"*, a material girl repents.

"The album is about the influence of Catholicism on my life and the passion it provokes in me," she has said. As if to emphasize her serious intent, on the back cover Madonna is depicted praying in a skimpy black nightdress, her décolletage exploding all over her rosary beads. Evelyn Waugh she isn't.

In fact, *"Like A Prayer"* is a Freudian couch of a record, with the leaden, weepy dirges *"Promise to Try"* and *"Oh Father"* bemoaning her relationships with her dead mother and living father, plus some funky musings on sibling rivalry on *"Keep It Together"*. For someone allegedly baring



Madonna: born-again brunette

their soul, it is all curiously unaffected, as though she had learned about life from Simon and Garfunkel records.

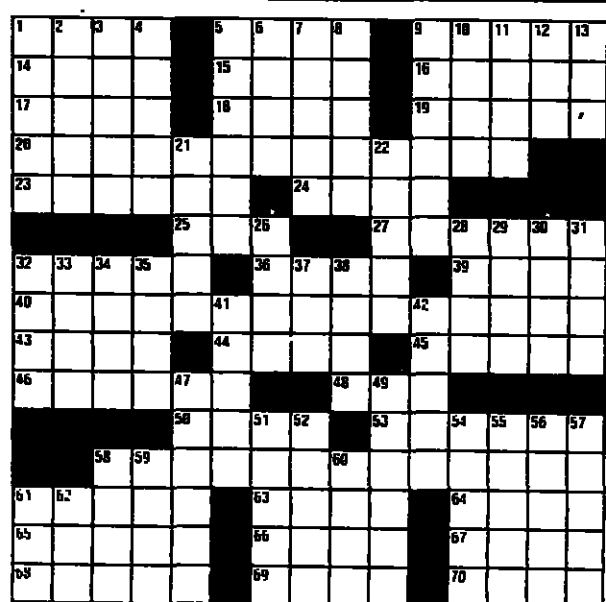
In the confessional *"Till Death Us Do Part"*, reflections on the domestic Armageddon of marriage to Sean Penn, the lyrics, full of smashed vases and fist-fights, never gell with the music, the insipid Euro-vision disco beat

that is Madonna at her worst. The wistfully upbeat title track and *"Express Yourself"*, a whoop of joy worthy of Sty Stone, help to pull the thing out of the mire. Mindless hedonism is her natural habitat.

"Like A Prayer" is as glossy and contrived as the Herb Ritts portrait of Madonna's jewel-encrusted midriff on the front cover. There's the bump-and-grind duet with Prince, complete with insinuating *"Allo Allo"* French, the brain-dead Valentine *"Cherish"* and the mournful *"Spanish Eyes"*, which could conceivably be a hit if she takes off enough clothes in the video.

Madonna does not make the leap from disco diva to serious artist. Like Debbie Harry before her, she covets the mythic glamour of Monroe's golden halo, though with her dreadful films, violent marriage and mediocre product like this new album, she is unfortunately much closer to Jayne Mansfield.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- Upper, to Fritz
- Applaud
- Accepted
- Govern
- Guitar s relative
- Mount a soapbox
- Warning sound
- Thanks —
- Dug a stope
- Isolated, in a way
- The Rose —
- Williams opus
- "L — cest moi"
- Singing syllable
- Aesop's lessons
- Memorable
- Egyptian leader
- Palm fruit
- Cheers, in Cadiz
- Deliberate indifference
- So be it
- Understanding words
- Approaches
- Clear of blame
- Encountered
- One of a Columbus trio
- Most despicable
- The —
- Hamlet's last words
- Raccoon's cousin
- Of the ear
- At the summit
- Inspiring profound respect
- Waist cincher
- Very dry
- Fortification
- Love god
- Beech or birch

DOWN

- Circle NASA style
- Vista Peak, Calif
- Vote into office
- Do a gardener's job
- Ado
- Humdinger
- Make amends
- Little, in a way
- Love apple
- Williams opus
- N. Nigerian city
- It follows printemps
- Actor Beatty
- "In God We Trust," e.g.
- Small role for a big star
- Enhances
- FDR, to Bellamy
- M.A.S.H. star
- Villainous glance
- Estonia, Latvia
- etc
- Take the lead
- Exclamation of woe
- Courageous act
- Teens' bane
- Peer Gynt's mother
- "Let — eat cake"
- Confine
- Up to that time
- Naval officer
- Quits
- Tearful queen of myth
- Fall bloomer
- Fewest
- Go into
- Make a hit
- Mobile home, once
- Sicilian sight
- Storage structure
- Jam ingredient
- Be in debt

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

ALBA RAKES AMMO
PEAR ELITE TIAK
ONCE GYMNASIICS
DIKOTIAS ASPIRE
SLOT OIAIR
ASTARTE ENTIERED
DARE ALPS EDIEMIA
OTO OSSEYES LOT
BAKST AWES PATE
ENEMIES SPRAYED
EON RIUHR
BALSAM REG LAZE
BALLERINAS ACER
EDGE CRIBS VITO
LEAD HELIO TRALS

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
COUNT THEM AND CHEER

Neither vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
♠ A 9 7 6 4
♥ 3
♦ A 8 3 2
♣ 10 4

WEST
♠ Q 5 2
♥ K J 10 9 8 6
♦ Void
♣ K 6 5 2

EAST
♠ 10
♥ Q 4
♦ K 10 6 4
♣ A Q J 9 8 3

SOUTH
♠ A 8 3
♥ A 7 5 2
♦ Q J 7 5
♣ 7

The bidding:

East	South	West	North
1 ♠	1 ♠	1 ♠	1 ♠
2 ♠	2 ♠	4 ♠	4 ♠
5 ♠	5 ♠	Pass	5 ♠
Dbl	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Two of ♠. Stop, look and listen is sound advice, not only for crossing the road but also for working out opponents' holdings at the bridge table. This hand is a prime example.

North judged well in removing the double of five clubs. While it is true that with the lead of ace of hearts and a continuation that contract would have failed by a trick,

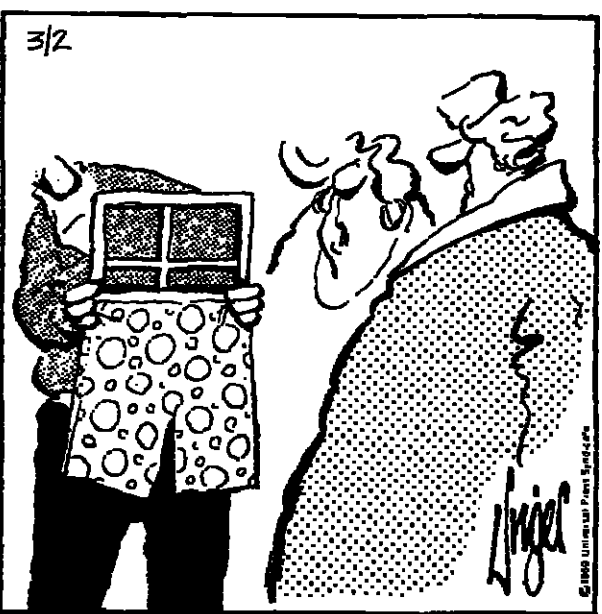
on the more normal diamond lead declarer would have romped home.

East's ace of clubs took the first trick, and he shifted to the queen of hearts. Declarer won his ace, led a diamond to the ace and returned a diamond to the nine. After the queen of diamonds lost to the king, declarer ruffed the club return and drew the last trump. The crucial point of the hand had been reached. How should declarer play the spade suit?

Those who follow rubrics would remember 'Eight ever, nine never' and blithely cash the ace-king. But is that logical in the light of the auction and play?

East surely has a six-card club suit and has shown up with four diamonds. If he had a singleton heart, West's distribution would have been 2-7-0-4, and he would probably have jumped to four hearts at his first turn. It is more probable that West has only six hearts, leaving East with two.

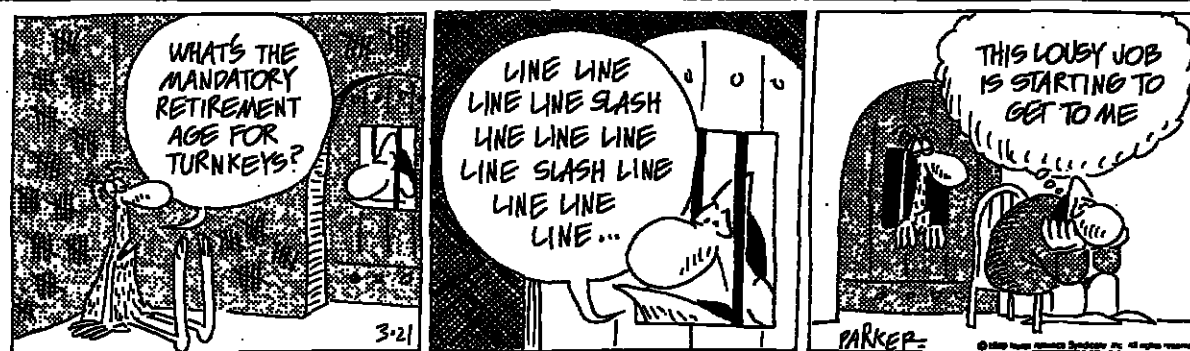
That means that 12 of East's cards have been accounted for, leaving him with only one spade. Therefore, the almost sure-trick line is for declarer to cash the ace of spades and then finesse the jack to land his contract.



"He's taking one of those correspondence courses to become a window dresser."

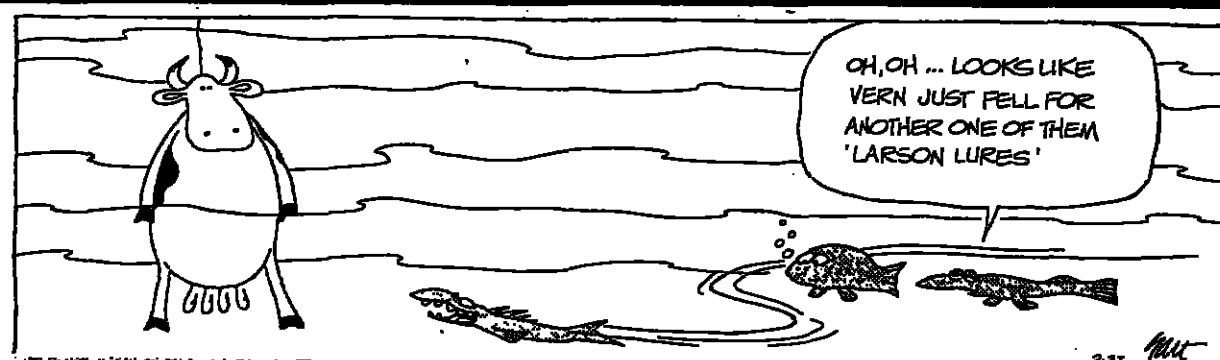
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You should have the courage of your convictions. You will have to try just a little harder. Nothing will be quite as you would wish but you will be able to make the best of it. Be hopeful.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

A little time spent tidying up will be time well spent. You should listen more carefully to what others are saying. Do not chat too long on the phone. Be respectful.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You would be wrong to try to prove what a clever chap you are: let your actions speak for you. Take a while to distinguish what is from what you think it is. Avoid giving up too soon. Be amenable.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You must make sure you do not leave things half unfinished. Make sure you get enough rest but do not "lie in". Remember there is nothing wrong with showing your gratitude. Your lucky numbers are 45 and 5. Be frank.



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

Do not allow yourself to be dominated by the television set. You will be able to do something to make up for lost time. You will be able to remedy a mistake, either you or someone close to you has made. Be moderate.



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

Something about which you have been deluding yourself will suddenly become clear. You will have to take action, but you will find the energy and willpower needed to do so. Do not neglect an infection, see a doctor if it gets worse. Be less negligent.



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)

This is going to be an interesting day, but you will also have to do something more routine. Have a good laugh at yourself. You will be able to get things out of proportion. Be more considerate.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

Not everything is to your liking, but there is much that should be. Remember there is nothing wrong or degrading about showing your gratitude — on the contrary, if you wait much longer it may well be too late. Be objective.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

You will be able to resolve something that has been puzzling you. You will be able to enjoy yourself, only make sure you do not hurt anyone in the process. Do not expect others to do just what you would like them to do. Be tactful.



Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19

You will be able to establish what it is that you have been doing wrong for some time now. It will not however be easy to put it right. You should have just a little more faith in yourself. Be fair.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

You will tend to tire rather more easily and should do all you can to conserve your energies. Try to avoid repeating yourself. Make sure you think twice or more and ask yourself whether you have not forgotten anything. Be methodical.



Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

You will have to be on the lookout for careless drivers even more than usual. Something you have been postponing should be done without further delay. Make sure you have not left any letters unanswered. Be observant.

CINE ROUND-UP FROM BOMBAY

by Firoze Rangoonwalla

Special to the Arab Times

Busy time for producers, directors

'Bollywood' stars on a shooting spree

A RECENT round of the studios and of the various shooting locations gives one a glimpse of the busy life being brewed and the delicacies being cooked by our producers and directors.

The shooting charts show an upward swing, as several films are making rapid progress. And the stars are busy as ever, shooting in two or three shifts and hopping from one place to another. They are also making pots of money in the process.

A lot of money seems to have been pumped in the making of *Angaar* by producer-cum-financier R.K. Jain, who is backing director

Shashilal Nair bravely after his recent debacle of flops. Also with a finger in the pie is Jackie Shroff, who is putting his own and wife Ayesha's money in order to make it big as a solo hero (without Anil Kapoor being anywhere near it).

A tremendously big shanty town has been erected for *Angaar* behind the Lokhandwala Complex, which is fast developing as a junior film colony. More than 22,000 square metres of marshy land has been converted into a residential slum, spread over seven different sets, with houses, shops, hydrants, lamp posts and all. The art director Verman indeed deserves credit for this massive operation. After the Mysore fire tragedy, they have kept safety arrangements too in plenty.

The director has changed the spelling of his name to K. Shashi Lal Nair (to cast off the spell of bad luck) and is working very hard to make *Angaar* a big hit. He explains his theme by saying: "The film shows the domination of the dons and slumlords, affecting the small world of the poor 'chawl' dwellers. And we also question violence as a solution to end violence". Jackie enjoys playing the underdog, like a trendy hero. He belongs to the educated unemployed and takes up the cause of the "basti", when the big sharks want to destroy it to make way for skyscrapers.

Quarrel

After the much-publicised quarrel with Dimple, when her father was removed from the partnership after which she also moved out, "*Angaar*" has been a lot in the limelight. Now, Dimple has withdrawn her public notice and is back in the film, playing an orphan girl rescued and protected by Jackie in his house. Anupam Kher who also served a legal notice is expected to come back. Mazhar and Kadar Khan, Kiran Kumar, Om Puri, Nana Patekar, Achyut Potdar are doing other roles along with hundreds of extras. Nair expects to release the film in May.

Another film progressing rapidly is *Apna Desh Paraye Log* without a big cast or budget. The title song (a popular wornout formula) and the climax have been filmed. Pradeep Hooda a

new director pilots the film with Suresh Oberoi, Sumeet Saigal and attractive starlets Sonu Walia, Moon Moon Sen, Tina Ghai and Neeta Puri. Sadashiv Amrapurkar and Ishrat Ali will be the villains and another Babbar called Sunil is being introduced.

Another film completed with small stars is *Muqaddar Meri Matthi Mein*. Directed by Ambrish Sangal, it has Dilip Dhavan, Sushma Prakash, Mazhar Khan, Ajit Vachani and Kalpana Iyer. Music is composed by Sharang Dev.

Among Amitabh's films, *Agneepath* seems to be making the quickest progress. The tall star has lost faith in fun and stunt movies, for the present and prefers a taut narrative with a strong character. He also seems to approve of Mukul Anand's direction, in the hope of making another hit like *Lassan*. But the supporting cast with Madhavi and Neelam as heroines is not strong and Mithun as a parallel hero may not co-operate very much. The film is still lying unsold for Bombay, Delhi, and four other zones. *Akayla* directed by Ramesh Sippy has a stronger support for Amitabh with Meenakshi, Amrita, Shashi Kapoor, Jackie, Aditya. Even so, distributors have not booked it for six major regions.

Dimple's pet film *Hag*, directed by Harish Bhoosle from a fiery story provided by Mahesh Bhatt, met some rapid schedules dated at Madh Island and Filmistan Studio. After Varsha, some more unusual scenes were shot at the huge swimming pool of Big Splash Hotel for Yodha. Last time, we had Sunny and Jackie plunging in to make a splash over Kimi. This time it was director Rahul Rawail filming a motor bike stunt with Sunny and stuntman, with the girl in the pool being Sangeeta Bhatnagar. The film's other hero is Sunjay Dutt. Yodha is on the lines of *Arjun*.

A Disneyland, created at a suburban reclamation ground, has become another popular location for filmmakers. They get ready-made sets of pleasure spots as well as joy rides and the stars literally go on a merry-go-round doing romantic, funny or children-oriented scenes. B.



Aamir Khan

Heroines are in a hectic race to play snakes, who can turn into bewitching females and they are also competing to perform sizzling snake dances.



Rishi Kapoor stars in Garajna.

Sobhash's *Love, Love, Love* with the pop pair Aamir and Juhi has completed its last schedule at Film City as well as the Mayura Hotel and the famous Bhalla's bungalow, which is hired out non-stop for shootings.

Garajna with Sri Devi, Vinod Khanna and Rishi Kapoor was shot by director K.R. Reddy at various spots. It is the story of a mother (Nutan) whose two sons fall in love with the same girl. Mahesh Bhatt's *Jurm* rumoured to be a Hindi version of *Fatal Attraction*, was shot at scenic locales like Madh Island and the forests around Film City.

Vinod Khanna, Meenakshi and Sangeeta enact the love triangle. It seems Mahesh is now turning attention away from his personal life episodes to the tug-of-war between wife, husband and mistress.

Race

Heroines are in a hectic race to play snakes, who can turn into bewitching females and they are also competing to do sizzling snake dances. The two top ones making a bid for big success are Rekha and Sri Devi. Rekha took up *Sheshnaag* mainly hoping to be one up on "Nagina" and the famous song-dance *Main naagin tu saapera* performed by Sri Devi at the climax. A huge & expensive set was put up at Mehboob Studios to picture a 9-minute snake dance on Rekha. It became even more famous after Rekha's bitter fight with dance director Saroj Khan, which prolonged the schedule from 9 to 14 days.

Not to be outdone, Sri Devi acted and danced continuously for Harish Malhotra's *Nigahen* (or "*Nagina-Part 2*") at R.K. and Seth studios, so that the film is nearly complete. Saroj is directing Sri Devi's dances too and Rekha's grouse was that the choreographer was doing a much better job for her rival.

Anyway Rekha, soon realised that she should not fall back in the race for the top, so she quickly ate humble pie and completed the dance. In that case, she should have also quarrelled with Laxmikant-Pyarelal, who are composing the music for both *Sheshnaag* as well as *Nigahen*.

Behind the screen

Khan's rule OK?

As Mazhar Khan has been unable to gain any mileage from his popular comic-villainish role in the TV serial *Bunyad*, he has decided to start directing his own film. He didn't have to look for a producer. Now *Gang* is a Zeenat Aman Khan meaning Mazhar Khan and not Sanjay Khan presentation. The banner is also in the family, since it is named after their two kids, Azhar-Azaan Film Company. They have roped in Jackie and Ayesha to help in the production. Two more Khans in the film are actor Amjad Khan and cameraman

Nadeem Khan.

Raw deal

The late filmmaker Sohanlal Kanwar who was ailing for a long time with liver cancer was given a raw deal by Sudha Chandran. Kanwar had given her a stellar role in his last film, *Tadap Aisi Bhi Hoti Hai*. But the greedy actress went on demanding more fees. The helpless Kanwar had to cut down her role. The film will be now released after his death. Pity that a one-legged actress could not realise the suffering of a sick producer.

Farha's furor

Farha again created a furor by walking out of an Amitabh film, *Khuda Gawah*, after some silly fights with director Mukul Anand. It was indirectly an insult to Amitabh. Later, when she saw the hidden "iron fist", she tried to change her version and made her secretary as well as the film's producer to declare that there was no misbehaving. She said that actually it was a very peaceful parting and goodbye. Peaceful with Farha? Bah.

Shilpa's gain

Farha's loss is Shilpa's gain. She at once grabbed the role in the big film with Amitabh and Sri Devi. Shilpa will play the young heroine of Sunjay Dutt. Incident-



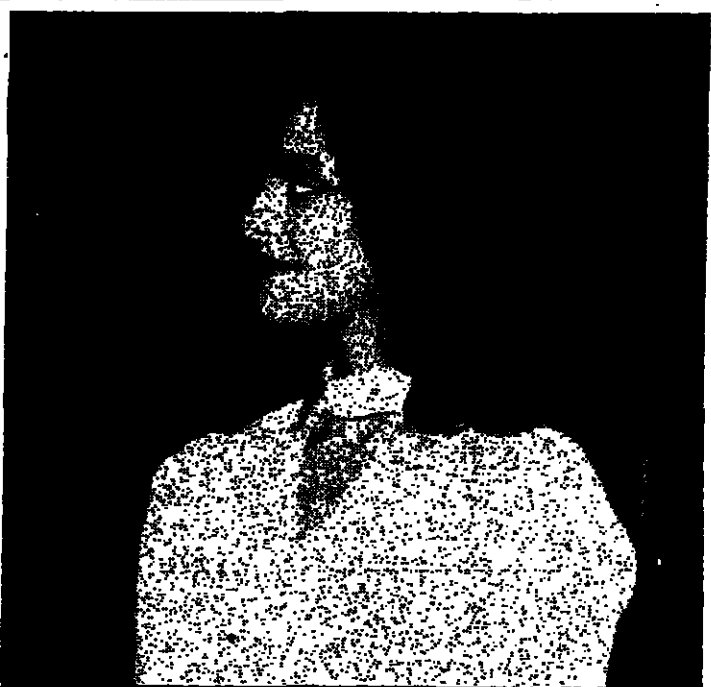
Farha: walked out of an Amitabh film



Amitabh in Agneepath. The film is progressing very quickly.



Sri Devi (left) and Rekha who is hoping to be one up on her younger rival with Sheshnaag.



'Souten' Shilpa: going places

tally, this discovery of Sawan Kumar, the "Souten" expert, has been making waves by bagging many roles after her freedom from Sawan's contract. She even did a cabaret for Hissab Chukta, where Kimi is the heroine. This is a sure passport to more films and stardom.

Other woman

Sawan Kumar has been going one better every time with his "Souten" series. This time it is *Souten Ki Souten*, which is not a bad title, since a mistress must

have a dose of her own medicine. But Sawan may not have the guts for such a bold story. By the way, where does he get all these ideas about the other women? People say: Just look at his own harem after parting from wife Usha Khanna.

Ravi's gamble

Since multi-starrers flop anyway the starry director Ravi Tandon has started *Zanjeeren* with TV stars like Pallavi Joshi, Nitish Bhardwaj, Salim Ghouse, Vikram Gokhale, etc. Let's see if this gamble pays off.



'Gang' of four: Jackie, Zeenat, Ayesha Shroff, and Mazhar Khan

FAMILY DOCTOR
By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

SPECIALIST CAN HELP WITH TOUGH FOOT PROBLEMS

QUESTION: I suffer from very painful corns and calluses on my feet. What kind of treatment would be best for me?

ANSWER: Corns and calluses, as well as warts, are collectively referred to as hyperkeratoses. A hardened area of skin is a callus, while a corn contains a hard, whitish core. Warts are usually viral in origin; while a specific wart may be removed, the virus itself remains in the system.

Corns and calluses result when a foot is squeezed into a tight shoe, or an internal bone rubs against the fleshy part of the foot. Calluses develop from repeated trauma to an area. A corn develops to protect the foot against injury to its internal parts; any treatment must take this underlying condition into account.

Projections on the bones within the foot—called condyles—are often to blame for corns. The condyle may have become thicker than normal due to injury or arthritis, and may need to be surgically shaved

off, a procedure which can often be performed with a minimal incision in the skin.

Abnormal bone movement may be at fault. Instead of surgery, orthotics—special molded devices—are inserted into the patient's shoes to redirect the movement of foot bones. This results in improved distribution of body weight while walking or running, and less sensitivity in the corns and calluses.

Calluses can be "pared"—cut away by a podiatrist, or treated with solutions to reduce their thickness. Pads that direct the body weight away from the corn, or protect it from friction also provide effective relief. Your doctor can help you select footwear that will lessen pressure on sensitive areas.

In any event, the first step in getting back on your feet is a visit to the appropriate specialist, either a dermatologist or podiatrist, depending upon the nature of your problem.

QUESTION: I can rarely get into a good

conversation without someone telling me how far he jogged today or how many push-ups he performed. If I believed every line I've heard I would have to believe that everyone in the world is exercising except me. The truth now, is everyone really on this exercise kick?

ANSWER: While the majority of Americans think they're in shape, only a minority actually exercise. In one study by the National Center for Health Statistics, 80 per cent of the respondents considered themselves to be as active or more active than other people their age—yet only 58 per cent exercised. And according to research at the University of Michigan, one-third of us never exercise at all, and only 10 per cent of us do enough exercise to even think about warding off heart disease. Worse, most people don't know how hard, how long or how often they need to work out in order to benefit the heart and lungs.

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RIQUL, one semi-furnished room in a CAC flat with water, electricity and tele facilities for one bachelor or working lady. Tel. 4894756.

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KUWAIT City, Sharq, Spacious one bedroom flat in a decent locality, available from 1st May. Rent KD150 with tele. Must buy carpet and sofas at throwaway prices. Tel. 2427525, off. 2420212, res.

SALWA, new annex, living room, (4.50x7.00) kitchen, bathroom, to rent immediately, with water and electricity. Rent KD100. Tel. Mr. Sreter, 5335650, 5335660, 9 am-1 pm, 4-7 pm.

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IN or around Kuwait City, accommodation required for a couple from May 1 to share with a vegetarian family. Tel. Mr. Kumar, 2417886 (off), 2514331 (res).

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QUEEN-SIZED spring bed, a six-drawer chest of drawers (brown) and a dressing table (white) with a round mirror. Tel. 2546808, 8 am-12 noon.

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DODGE Ram Charger Royal, 4 wheel drive, 1981, automatic, power steering, navy/sky blue, super airconditioning, insured up to February 1990. Safe, reliable, good engine and clean exterior/interior. KD1400, cash. Tel. 5620813, 9am-1pm, 5-8pm.

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MAID required, Indian, part-time near the Meridian Hotel. Tel. 2456383 off, 2411449, res.

MAID required, Indian, for a small family without children, part-time, in the mornings, in Benid Al Qar. Must speak Telugu, English or Hindi. Tel. 2541093 before 12 noon, any day.

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شبكة التلي فيديو
THE VIDEO CLUB
Now **FINTAS TOWERS** Tel. 3710218
ALSO SALMIYA, SALHIYA, SAFEWAY

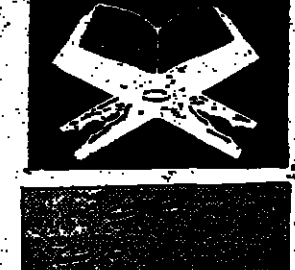
WANTED
British or American NURSERY TEACHER for English Playgroup to start now and/or in September
Favourable working conditions
Tel: 2428160

New in town?
Check the classified pages of the Arab Times for used cars, boats, furniture and electronics. The bargains will amaze you.

WANTED
Female secretary Must have computer experience
Tel. 2401242/3

REQUIRED
Duct fitters
CAC mechanic preferably with driving licence.
Driver-cum-assistant Must have transferable residence.
Contact between 8 - 2 pm week days
Tel: 4747137-4747138-4747138

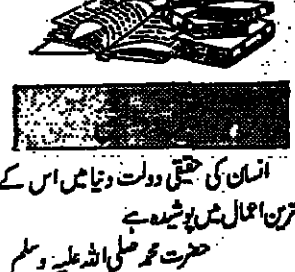
TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR RAMADAN SPECIAL 25% DISCOUNT
COMPUTER COURSE
HOURS
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2. WORD PROCESSING
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لوہاں کے گھوڑے اور لوہاں کے
تخت جن پر بیٹھے ہیں
سب چاندی اور سونے کے گھوڑے
وہیں جلتا دیکھا جلتا ہے اور اکثرت
تجربہ دہ کے ہاں صرف جیتنے کے لئے
بے (سورہ فرقان آیت نمبر ۳۳-۳۵)



حضرت ابن عباسؓ کہتے ہیں کہ ہم لوگ
رسول اللہؐ کے ہمراہ رہنے سے پہلے جانے کے
لئے تھے تو آپؐ (پھر فرماتے ہیں) دو دو
دیکھ کر دیکھ کر دیکھ کر دیکھ کر دیکھ کر
آئے۔ (بخاری)



انسان کی عقلی دولت دنیا میں اس کے
محرم اعمال میں پیدا ہے
حضرت محمدؐ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم

۱۹۵۵ء۔ اگرچہ فوج نے ہندوستان میں
نہیں (مداف) پر فتح کر لی۔
۱۸۸۸ء۔ سوان میں اگرچہ جہل پکڑ کر
فوجوں نے لہور پر فتح کر لی۔
۱۹۰۲ء۔ روسیوں نے پھریا کے آٹھ
پر مجبور کیا۔
۱۹۰۶ء۔ سلطہ انجیل پر دخل ہوئے
۱۹۰۷ء۔ برطانیہ فرانس نے بیام (قادیان)
لیٹس کی آزادی کے لئے اجلاس کیا۔
۱۹۱۳ء۔ جمہوریہ چین کی پہلی پارلیمنٹ کا
اجلاس منعقد ہوا۔
۱۹۱۴ء۔ اٹلی کی فوجوں کے البانیہ میں
داخل ہونے کے بعد یوگوسلاویہ کے راہ فرار
اتھار۔
۱۹۱۵ء۔ بھارت پاکستان نے انڈیا کے
بارے میں سلطہ برطانوی کو شکست
۱۹۱۶ء۔ فرانس میں ریفریم نے انڈیا کو
فوج آزادی سے پاس مل کے حق میں فیصلہ
ڈیا۔
۱۹۱۷ء۔ بھارت نے کشمیر کے سابق وزیر
اعلیٰ محمد علی جناح کو رہا کیا۔

کئی دہائی کے مقابلے میں غیر ملکی
کرپشن کی قیمت صبر دلی رہی۔

پاکستان روپے (نیوز) ۷۹۰-۱۳
برازیل روپے (نیوز) ۲۲۰-۱۸
برزیل ڈالر (نیوز) ۸۳۰-۷۹
انگلی ڈالر (نیوز) ۲۱۱-۰
فرانسیس فرانک (نیوز) ۹۳۳-۳۵
برکائی ڈالر (نیوز) ۱۵۰-۳۹
برطانوی پائونڈ (نیوز) ۵۷۰-۳۲
جرمن مارک (نیوز) ۹۰-۱۵۵
لبرل ڈالر (نیوز) ۱۱۲-۷۹
ایٹلی (نیوز) ۸۳-۷۵
جاپانی ین (نیوز) ۲۱۰-۷۹
سویس فرانک (نیوز) ۳۲۰-۱۷۷
سویڈن ڈالر (نیوز) ۳۷۳-۷۷
تھائی ریال (نیوز) ۷۱۱-۷۹

کئی دہائی کے مقابلے میں غیر ملکی
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سویڈن ڈالر (نیوز) ۳۷۳-۷۷
تھائی ریال (نیوز) ۷۱۱-۷۹

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India play first time for 20 years without an Amritraj

NEW DELHI, April 7. (Reuters): India will play a Davis Cup tennis tie next month without one of the Amritraj brothers — Vijay, Anand or Ashok — for the first time for nearly 20 years.

Part-time film actor Vijay, 36, had been named captain for the May 5-7 Asia-Oceania group second-round clash against South Korea or Japan, but pulled out due to heel and shoulder injuries.

Anand, 38, who alongside Vijay helped India to Davis Cup finals in 1974 and 1978, was dropped from the squad earlier this year because he was no longer among the country's top five and youngest brother Ashok, a top five player in the 1970s, also failed to be selected.

Meanwhile, in Dhaka, Bangladesh led Singapore 2-0 after the first day of their Davis Cup Asia-Oceania Zone Group Two quarterfinal tennis tie yesterday.

Results (Bangladeshi names first): Shovan Jamaly beat Sunny Liu 6-7 4-6 7-5 6-3 6-2; Faisal Rahman beat Liu Wai Yan 3-6 6-4 1-0 — retired.

Algeria and Morocco were drawing 1-1 after the second day of their Davis Cup African Zone Group Two quarterfinal yesterday.

The doubles was suspended because of rain after the opening set.

Maccabi Tel Aviv beaten in European basketball championship

Kukoc's magic helps Yugoslavia score upset win

MUNICH, West Germany, April 7. (AP): The magic was in the movement for Toni Kukoc and it resulted in a fairytale ending for him and his young Yugoslav teammates at European basketball's final four. Tense and unsure of himself in the first half, Kukoc, the 20-year-old forward often called the "Magic Johnson of Europe," adjusted his steps after intermission and led Jugoplastika to a 75-69 upset of top-seeded Maccabi Tel Aviv in the Continental Club Championship last night.

"Unbelievable. I just can't believe it," Kukoc exclaimed after scoring 13 of his 18 points in the second half, as Jugoplastika, seeded fourth, rallied from a six-point deficit with 9:12 left to play to hand Maccabi its third consecutive championship-game loss.

After dominating the semifinal victory over second-seeded Barcelona on Tuesday night, Kukoc was a different player in the first 20 minutes against Maccabi.

He looked lost on court, passing up open shots and clanging the ones he did take. On one free throw, he sent an airball that fell in front of the basket. With only one 3-point field goal from its star in the first 18 1/2 minutes, Jugoplastika wasted a six-point lead and had to fight back for a 35-35 halftime tie.

When the second half opened, however, the old Kukoc was back. He hit a layup to put his team in front 37-35 and showed renewed confidence, stepping back across the 3-point line for a

basket that put the Yugoslavs up 48-44.

Maccabi went on a 12-3 run, the only Jugoplastika points coming on a Kukoc 3-pointer, but the 2.08-metre forward then added five more points as Jugoplastika took a 62-61 lead moving ahead on another 3-pointer from its star.

"I didn't give him any special instructions at halftime," Jugoplastika coach Bozidar Maljkovic said. "I told him to improve his movement. No criticism. Just improve your movement."

With Kukoc back on target and a suffling defence forcing four consecutive Maccabi turnovers, Jugoplastika moved to a 71-66 lead and sealed the victory with a pair of baskets by centre Dino Radja — an airball turned into a layup and a slam dunk at the end of a fast break.

The loss was a bitter one for Maccabi, which appeared several times to take the upper hand with its speed and muscle.

"We are very fed up with losing three times in a row in the final," Maccabi captain Doron Jamchi said. "I know we all wanted very much to win. We tried."

Jamchi was the game's high scorer with 25 points. Kevin Magee, the former all-American who scored 29 points in a semifinal victory over Aris Thessalonika, was limited to 10 points against Jugoplastika, including just three in the second half. His only point in the final 17 minutes was a free throw that tied it 64-64 with five minutes remaining.



Ivic Buric is carried aloft by teammates from Jugoplastika Split after winning the match. (Reuters wirephoto)



Goran Sobin from Jugoplastika Split scores while Kevin Magee from Maccabi looks on during their match. (Reuters wirephoto)

Atlanta rout Philadelphia

NEW YORK, April 7. (AP): Reggie Theus scored 20 of his 30 points in the first half and the Atlanta Hawks had more points after one quarter than Philadelphia had at halftime as they routed the 76ers 135-93 Wednesday night.

The Hawks outscored the Sixers 49-14 in the second quarter to make the game rout. That made it 78-37 at the half, with the 78 points the most Atlanta has scored this season in one half.

The 42-point margin of victory tied the all-time record for the Hawks, who beat San Diego 129-87 on Nov. 30, 1967.

Moses Malone had 25 points and 12 rebounds for the Hawks, while Dominique Wilkins and John Battle each added 19. Philadelphia was led by Charles Barkley and Ron Anderson, who both had 18 points.

In the only other game in the National Basketball Association Wednesday night, the Phoenix Suns beat the Utah Jazz 114-104.

Kevin Johnson scored 13 of his 32 points in the fourth period and Tom Chambers had 17 of his 30 in the final seven minutes for the Suns.

The victory put Phoenix 3 1/2 games behind the first-place Los Angeles Lakers in the NBA's Pacific Division. Utah lost in Phoenix for the seventh straight time despite 29 points from Karl Malone and 28 from Thurl Bailey.

Phoenix, 33-5 at home this season including a 26-0 mark against Western Conference foes, trailed 74-73 after a 10-1 Utah run with 3:53 left in the third quarter.

Navratilova meets Mandlikova in quarterfinals

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC, April 7. (Reuters): Defending champion Martina Navratilova and two Soviet players, Natalia Zvereva and Leila Meskhi, advanced yesterday to the quarterfinals of a \$300,000 women's tennis tournament.

Eight-seeded Hana Mandlikova of Australia avenged a loss in the 1988 French Open when she outplayed 11th-seeded Bettina Fulco of Argentina 6-1 6-2.

Advanced

In the quarterfinals Mandlikova faces Navratilova of the United States, who powered her way past 10th-seeded Catarina Lindqvist of Sweden 6-4 6-2 on the clay courts.

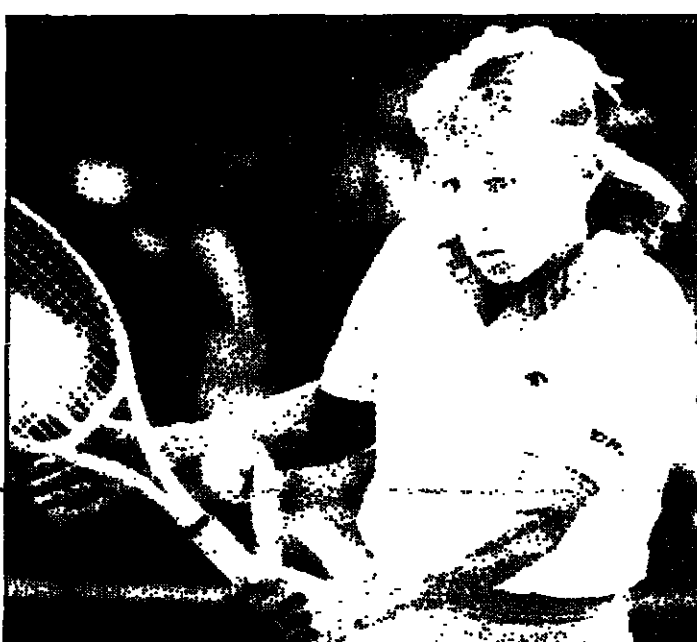
Meskhi blitzed fifth-seeded Lori McNeil of the United States 6-1 6-2 and now faces Zvereva, the fourth seed who struggled past South African Amanda Coetzer 6-4 3-6 6-0.

Radka Zrubakova of Czechoslovakia and Linda Ferrando also advanced with upset wins. Zrubakova surprised sixth-seeded Helen Kelesi of Canada 6-7 (6-8) 6-4 7-5 in a two hour, 41 minute marathon, while Ferrando won an all-Italian match against ninth-seeded Sandra Cecchi 6-1 7-5.

Zrubakova now faces top-seeded Steffi Graf of West Germany in the quarterfinals while Ferrando plays seventh-seeded Arantxa Sanchez of Spain.

Meskhi, ranked 26 spots below McNeil at number 36, controlled the 63-minute match by keeping the normally aggressive McNeil pinned to the baseline and used her passing shots to win points when McNeil did come to the net.

McNeil, known primarily as a fast-court player, won her service just once in seven attempts and admitted she was never in the match.



Navratilova

McEnroe and Noah to play in Davis Cup match

SAN DIEGO, April 7. (Reuters): John McEnroe is the strong favorite against Yannick Noah in the first world group Davis Cup match today between the United States and France.

McEnroe, with 37 victories, has won more singles Davis Cup matches than any other US player, and in combined singles and doubles play, the New Yorker has a 52-9 record — the best of any American.

In addition to those favourable statistics, McEnroe holds a 3-0 lead in career victories over Noah.

"We just didn't want to come here to look good," Noah said. "We want to win and to do that I'll have to beat John. I have nothing to lose playing John," said Noah, ranked 12th in the world. "I will give everything I have."

McEnroe, who won his last two tournaments on the Grand

Prix Circuit before taking a three-week rest, is ranked sixth in the world.

McEnroe beat Noah under similar circumstances in the last meeting between the two nations in the 1982 final in Grenoble. McEnroe's come-from-behind, five-set opening-day win lifted his team to a 4-1 win.

The second match today is between American Andre Agassi and Henri Leconte, who holds a 2-1 career advantage.

Both players have not played up to their usual form so far this season.

Agassi, fifth in the world, opened the year with two wins in the Americans' 5-0 victory over Paraguay in the Davis Cup first round. But since then teenager has stumbled, losing in the first round in his last two tournaments.

"I have not been close to par for a lot of reasons," Agassi said.

Injuries

Leconte, 13th in the world, has played sparingly this year because of nagging injuries. But in France's first-round victory over Israel he won the pivotal opening day match over Amos Mansdorf after losing the first two sets.

The final day of singles play on Sunday begins with Agassi against Noah, followed with



McEnroe and Leconte.

In tomorrow's crucial doubles match, the United States will put the unbeaten cup team of Ken Flach and Robert Seguso against

Leconte and Noah.

The winner advances to the semifinals July 21-23 against the winner of the Czechoslovakia-West German match.

Becker plays in opening match

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia, April 7. (AP): West Germany's Boris Becker in the opening match today of the Davis Cup competition with Czechoslovakia. It is to face off with Karel Novacek, it was announced in Prague yesterday.

In the second singles match, Carl-Uwe Steeb meets Czechoslovakia's Milan Srejber.

In doubles tomorrow, Becker teams up with Eric Jelen against Tomas Smid and Petr Korda.

On Sunday Steeb meets Novacek and Becker plays the final singles match against Srejber.

Czechoslovakia's star player, Miroslav Mecir, who has suffered back troubles will be unable to play. Czechoslovak media reported that team captain Frantisek Pala called the World No. 1.

Austria to clash with Sweden in second round

VIENNA, April 7. (UPI): Austria goes into its Davis Cup group second round clash with Sweden today without a player. Thomas Muster, who was injured when a drunk driver hit his car in Miami last week.

Muster, who suffered knee damage, was forced to withdraw from the final of the Lipton International Tournament, will be off the courts for six to nine months, doctors said.

Austria ousted Australia 5-0 in the first round of the Davis Cup last February, thanks mostly to Muster.

With his loss the team is suffering severe doubts about its ability to beat four-time winner Sweden.

"First it was a 60-10 chance for us, now it's a 90-10 chance for Sweden," said Horst Skoff, Aus-

trian No. 2 player.

Sweden boasts Davis Cup veterans Mats Wilander, the world No. 2, and Stefan Edberg, the world No. 3, though admittedly both are not playing their best after tough 1988 seasons.

Skoff, who ranks 35th in the world, is fighting hard to break the mood of doom.

Training

"It's just like it was before the match against Australia," he said, and his teammate Stephen Lochbiller said the 21-year-old was training hard to try to make up for Muster's absence.

"Horst is working as intensively as ever. He never worked like this before," Lochbiller said.

Skoff is also counting on the poor performance of the Swedes much as he did when playing

against Australian Pat Cash in the opening match of the first round last February. He beat the former Wimbledon champion 7-5, 7-5, 6-3.

"Despite their class, despite their experience, we have to tell each other that both (Wilander and Edberg) are very weak at the moment," he said.

Although cautious, Swedish coach Joan Anders Sjoergen is confident.

"We're the favourites," he said.

Wilander, however, was avoiding overconfidence.

Tough

"Austria is a good team and they have good players. Besides, they have the crowds going for them. It'll be a tough match whether Muster is on the team or not."

The venue will be in the same indoor stadium where Austria hosted Australia in the first round, but this time without the controversial clay court made with coconut net as the base material. The surface was criticised by Australia, which claimed the pace of the game was too slow, although it is the prerogative of the host country to pick the surface in Davis Cup.

This time, Austria will lay down a normal clay court over the hard surface of the stadium.

Alexander Antonitsch will meet Stefan Edberg in the opening singles, with Skoff and Wilander meeting in the second.

Skoff and Antonitsch will meet Anders Jarryd and Edberg in the doubles tomorrow and the reverse singles is scheduled for Sunday.

Palmeiro leads Texas to victory

NEW YORK, April 7. (AP): Nolan Ryan got a no decision after allowing seven hits and four runs in five innings as Texas beat the Detroit Tigers 5-4 on Rafael Palmeiro's seventh-inning RBI single.

"It wasn't a real good performance," the all-time strikeout leader said. "If I don't shut somebody out, I'm not happy. I didn't want to get off on the wrong foot and embarrass myself."

Ryan, who signed as a free agent with the Rangers last December for a guaranteed \$2 million over two years, struck out eight to increase his all-time record to 4,783 and walked three.

Palmeiro delivered the game-winning run with an infield single off reliever Frank Williams, 0-1, to score Cecil Espy for a 5-4 lead. Both Espy and Scott Fletcher had singled.

Winner

Ceciliano Gaente was the winner and Jeff Russell pitched the last 1 2/3 innings for the save.

In other games in the American League, Minnesota beat the New York Yankees 7-1. Milwaukee shut out Cleveland 3-0. Oakland beat Seattle 11-3. Baltimore beat Boston 6-4. Kansas City beat Toronto 3-2 and the Chicago White Sox defeated California 3-2.

Twins 7, Yankees 1
Wally Backman and Kirby Puckett hit successive triples to highlight a five-run sixth inning and Shane Rawley allowed three hits in six innings in his Minnesota debut.

Both benches emptied in the eighth inning when Kent Hrbek charged the mound after reliever Dave Righetti threw a pitch high and inside. Hrbek was stopped by several players and neither player was ejected.

Orioles 6, Red Sox 4
Jose Bautista allowed six hits in eight innings and Phil Bradley's single snapped a fourth-inning tie as Baltimore swept the two-game series.

Mickey Tettleton and Larry Sheets drove in two runs each for Baltimore, the only unbeaten team in the American League East.

Brewers 3, Indians 0
Chris Bosio pitched a three-hitter and rookie Gary Sheffield hit a home run with two outs in the eighth inning to snap a scoreless tie as Milwaukee beat Cleveland 3-0.

Bosio, 1-0, earned his first victory as a starter since last May 16, striking out three and walking none. He got 14 Cleveland batters to hit into groundouts and retired the final 16 batters.

Athletics 11, Mariners 3
Glenn Hubbard's three-run homer capped a six-run third inning as Oakland swept the season-opening series.

Mark McGwire, Carney Lansford and Dave Parker each drove in two runs for Oakland, which has won its first seven games after taking its final seven in exhibition play.

The defending AL champions got 34 hits and six home runs in the series and outscored Seattle 25-6.

Royals 3, Blue Jays 2
Toronto catcher Ernie Whit's needless throw went into left field and allowed the winning run to score in the eighth inning.

With the score tied 2-2, Willie Wilson walked off Duane Ward, 0-1. Kevin Seitzer sacrificed and George Brett was walked intentionally.

With a 3-1 count on Danny Tartabull, Wilson broke for third as Todd Stottlemyre pitched ball four for a walk. But Whit threw to third and the ball went over Kelly Gruber's head into the outfield, allowing Wilson to score.

White Sox 3, Angels 2
Ron Kittle snapped out an eight-inning tie with a two-out double.

With one out, Greg Walker was hit by a pitch from Willie Fraser, 0-1. After Harold Baines



San Francisco Giants' centre fielder Brett Butler (bottom) puts his back into an effort to successfully break up double play after being forced out by San Diego Padres' 2nd baseman Roberto Alomar (top) leaving Giants' Robby Thomson safe on first base during 3rd inning action on April 5. Padres won 4-3. (Reuters wirephoto)

fired out. Kittle doubled into the left-field corner.

Carlton Fisk's 325th career homer gave Chicago the lead in

the second. It was his second of the season and 305th as a catcher, pulling him to within one of Yogi Berra's record for catchers.

Borg to play final match in Japan

TOKYO, April 7. (Reuters): Five-times Wimbledon champion Bjorn Borg said today his exhibition match against American former arch-rival John McEnroe next week would be his last public tennis appearance.

"This will be my last exhibition match," the 32-year-old Swede said. "I've been practising for two hours every day since the beginning of January this year and I'm in very, very good shape."

The match in Hiroshima on April 15 is the last in a four-game exhibition series due to be played in Singapore, Manila and Taipei.

Borg, who lost to McEnroe in the 1981 Wimbledon final, has made only infrequent appearances in exhibition matches since he retired from tournament tennis in 1983.

He said he planned to devote himself in future to his sports business and to helping young people improve their tennis skills.

In Bangkok, Thailand led Bahrain 2-0 after the first day of their Davis Cup Asia-Oceania Zone Group Two quarterfinal tennis tie yesterday. Results (Thai names first): Vopapol Thongkanchu beat Essam Abdul Ali 6-3 6-1 6-0; Thanakorn Srichanpant beat Abdul Rahman Shehab 6-1 6-1 6-0.

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In Hasaki, Japan, South Korea and Japan were level at 1-1 after the first day of their Davis Cup Asia-Oceania Group One quarterfinal tennis tie yesterday. Results (Japanese names first): Toshihisa Tsuchihashi beat Song Dong-Wook 6-4 6-6 6-4; Haruo Nakano lost to Kim Bong-Soo 2-6 6-7 (9-11) 0-6.

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SPORTS

Crucial League clash on Sunday

AC Milan hold Real in European Cup semifinal

ROME, April 7. (Reuters): AC Milan and Napoli, Italy's top hopes for European honours this season, have little time to recover from fine midweek performances before a crucial League clash on Sunday.

Milan, who held Real Madrid to a 1-1 draw away in their European Cup semifinal match on Wednesday, are in buoyant mood after a disappointing, injury-hit start to the season and are looking to improve their fourth place in the League.

The defending champions will be able to field their trio of Dutch stars now that Ruud Gullit, who shone against Real before being pulled off early, has fully recovered from a bout of flu.

Notched
Second-placed Napoli, who notched a fine 2-0 home win over Bayern Munich in the UEFA Cup, cannot afford to lose if they are to have any hope of making up their six-point shortfall behind League leaders Internazionale.

Their chances depend greatly on the fitness of Argentine cap-

tain Diego Maradona, whose return after a thigh injury inspired the victory over Bayern.

"This team was built around Maradona," Napoli trainer Ottavio Bianchi said after Wednesday's match.

Inter will be resting two injured players including the League's top scorer Aldo Serena who has a pulled leg muscle.

But the leaders should have little trouble collecting two points when they travel to low-placed Cesena.

Snatch

Real Madrid, smarting from their rather fortunate draw against Milan, have a respite on Sunday when they play at home against Murcia, who have never won in the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium and who stand next to last in the League.

Barcelona, still trailing Madrid by three points, face a tougher task in Zaragoza. Barcelona have lost only once there in the last 10 years, but Zaragoza badly need two points to avoid falling into the relegation zone.

Third-placed Celta Vigo — 12 points behind Real — travel to Seville to play Real Betis, while Atletico Madrid, without suspended top scorer Baltazar de Morais, go to Valencia to try to snatch fourth place. Atletico currently stand one point behind Valencia in the fifth spot.

In West Germany Bayern follow their Napoli defeat with a tough match against defending champions Werder Bremen.

Bayern's remarkable run of 23 games without defeat this season ended last Saturday when Borussia Moenchengladbach thrashed them 2-1 and Werder's vice-president Klaus-Dieter Fischer said he believed they were vulnerable enough to be beaten on their home ground.

Lead

Bayern's main contender for League honours, Cologne, are currently just three points behind and should have little difficulty beating Kaiserslautern on Saturday.

In the Dutch First Division PSV Eindhoven, struggling to retain their title and depleted by

injuries face third-placed FC Twente away.

PSV's lacklustre play in recent weeks has reduced their lead over second-placed Ajax from eight points to two and they face the prospect of losing the League championship for the first time in four years.

PSV suffered a shock 1-0 defeat at home last weekend at the hands of ninth-placed Sparta and were crushed 4-1 on their own turf by Ajax the week before. They are also beset by injuries.

Disbanded

Latest casualty Czechoslovak Libero Josef Chovanec, who tore a calf muscle during training earlier in the week, joins goalkeeper Hans van Breukelen, striker Wim Kieft and defenders Adick Koot and Ivan Nielson who have been off the field for much of the season due to injury.

Ajax, buoyed by recent victories, host 12th-placed FC Utrecht, optimistic about their chances of wrenching the top spot from PSV.

In Paris, Racing Club of Paris, having played seven disappointing seasons in the French soccer League, will be disbanded at the end of this season, the team's sponsor announced yesterday.

The announcement by Matra, the French arms and computer manufacturer, ended more than a week of speculation over the fate of the club, which is currently 16th among 20 First Division clubs and which has been eliminated from the French Cup competitions.

The club, organised in 1982, failed to live up to its sponsor's plan to "conquer Europe within 10 years" and was a drain of some 80 million francs (\$13 million) a year on the company. Speculation about the dissolution of the club sent Matra stock soaring six per cent one day last week. The stock had risen some eight per cent in the week before the announcement.

The end of Racing Club will mean most players will be dealt to other clubs, according to Matra president Jean-Luc Lagardere.



Napoli's Maradona exulting after they beat Bayern Munich in UEFA Cup semifinal. (Reuters wirephoto)

SPORTS BRIEFS

Gower for captain

SYDNEY, April 7. (Reuters): Australian cricket coach Bob Simpson today welcomed news of the appointment of David Gower as England captain for the forthcoming Ashes Test Series.

Gower, who has scored 7,000 runs in 100 Tests, was on Wednesday reappointed by the England selection committee for this summer's three one-day matches and the six-test Ashes Series against Australia.

Revenge match

DORTMUND, West Germany, April 7. (Reuters): North Korean team bronze medallists Chu Jong-Chol and Kim Song-Hui were gearing up for revenge in the singles event at the World Table Tennis Championships today.

Seeds Chu and Kim, on the men's team which lost in the semifinals to eventual winners Sweden earlier this week, both lined up second round singles matches against Swedish rising stars.

Libertadores Cup

PORTO ALEGRE, Brazil, April 7. (Reuters): Inspired by the skills of striker Nilson, Internacional of Brazil trounced Penarol of Uruguay 6-2 in a stormy Libertadores Cup South American soccer championship match on Wednesday.

In a powerful display reminiscent of their glory years in the mid-1970s when they had the great Falcão, Internacional swept to a 4-0 half-time lead in the second round, first leg tie but the victory was later marred when Nilson was sent off.

Motorcycling GP

PHILLIP ISLAND, Australia, April 7. (Reuters): Wayne Gardner, the 1987 world champion, will pray his mechanics have worked out how to boost the power on his 500cc Honda as he prepares for Australia's first motorcycling Grand Prix on Sunday.

Gardner, determined to perform well in front of his home fans, was around 10 kph slower than the Suzuki of Kevin Schwantz and the Yamaha of another American, Wayne Rainey, in the season's opening Grand Prix in Japan.

WBA title fight

LONDON, April 7. (Reuters): Briton Herol Graham's long wait for a world title fight is over with the announcement yesterday that he will meet Jamaican-born Mike McCallum for the vacant World Boxing Association (WBA) middleweight crown in London on May 10.

British champion Graham has been frustrated in his world attempts since capturing the European title in February 1986, his biggest setback coming 15 months later when Italian Sambo Kalambay took his European crown by inflicting the only defeat on Graham in 42 contests during a 10-year career.

Yugoslav leads

BARCELONA, Spain, April 7. (Reuters): Yugoslav grandmaster Lubomir Lubovlevich was still leading the Royal Chess Cup yesterday after seven rounds.

He drew in the seventh round against ex-world champion Boris Spassky from France after 22 moves and two hours of play. Other seventh round results: Alexander Beliavsky (Soviet Union) drew against Prebrag Nikolic (Yugoslavia); Johan Hjartarson (Iceland) drew against Gary Kasparov (Soviet Union).

Marshall seeks West Indian record

BRIDGETOWN, April 7. (Reuters): Malcolm Marshall, the world's top strike bowler, is set to become the most successful West Indian bowler ever during the second cricket Test against India starting today.

Marshall missed the rain-ravaged first Test because of a wrist injury and, subject to a fitness test, returns to strengthen the already formidable West Indian pace attack here.

The 30-year-old fast bowler has captured 307 wickets in 63 Tests and needs only three to overtake off-spinner Lance Gibbs' West Indian record.

History and current form favour West Indies, who have lost only one of 24 Tests played here.

The Indian batting has looked extremely vulnerable and the touring side badly miss opener Krishna Srikanth, who was forced to return home after breaking his forearm in the fifth and final one-day international.

India will rely heavily on spinners Narendra Hirwani and Arshad Ayub to dismiss the home side, although neither looked totally convincing in the drawn first Test.

Leg-spinner Hirwani, who captured 36 victims in four Tests in his debut series against West Indies two years ago, took some



Marshall

heavy punishment and Ayub, despite taking five wickets, is not regarded highly by the West Indian batsmen.

Probable teams:

WEST INDIES: Viv Richards (captain), Gordon Greenidge, Desmond Haynes, Richie Richardson, Keith Arthurton,

Gus Logie, Jeff Dujon, Malcolm Marshall, Courtney Walsh.

INDIA: Dilip Vengsarkar (captain), Navjit Sidhu, Ravi Shastri, Woorker Raman, Mohammed Azharuddin, Sanjay Manjrekar, Kapil Dev, Kiran More, Arshad Ayub, Chetan Sharma, Narendra Hirwani.

Trevino takes lead in first round of Masters Open

AUGUSTA, Georgia, April 7. (AP): Lee Trevino forgot where he was. Maybe that's why he shot his best round in 18 years at the Masters.

Playing what could be his last Masters, Trevino battled gusty winds for a 5-under-par 67 yesterday in the opening round of the 53rd Masters, and led former British champion Nick Faldo of England by a single stroke.

Trevino complained that, at 49, his memory isn't what it once was.

"I forget my glasses. I forget my car keys. I can be driving home and go to the wrong address. I forget I moved," said Trevino.

Perhaps his mind wandered and he forgot he was playing the course that has been his nemesis for two decades: the Augusta National Golf Club, where he vowed never to play again.

Three times in the 1970s, Trevino declined an invitation to this elite event. As late as last year, he said "I hope to God they

don't send me an invitation. I don't want to be here." He still refuses to use the locker room, changing his shoes in the parking lot.

"I'm consistent: nothing has changed," Trevino responded when asked if the best round he ever shot at the Masters had altered his attitude about the course or the tournament.

The bogey-free effort came as a complete surprise, Trevino said.

"I certainly didn't expect to play this well," said Trevino, who hasn't played a full schedule in seven seasons and became the oldest man ever to lead this tournament.

But it was no surprise to his peers. "The only surprise is that he hasn't done it before," said Tom Kite.

"I'm pulling for him," Tom Watson said. "He can play well anyway. Lee wants to win this tournament."

"I think it would be fabulous if

Lee could play well and go on to win it," Jack Nicklaus said.

Trevino agreed, saying a victory "would mean filling out the Grand Slam."

But the winner of golf's other three major events — the US and British Opens and the PGA — played down his chances in the coming rounds today, tomorrow and Sunday.

"I might shoot 80 the next three days, and it won't bother me a bit," he said.

Save

Trevino one-putted the first five holes and the last three, getting up and down from difficult positions for pars on the last two holes to save his lead.

Faldo's 68 included an eagle-3 on the 13th, where a 1-iron on his second shot set up a 12-foot putt. He had a chance to tie for the lead on the final hole but left a 12-foot putt inches short.

Scott Hoch, one of the late finishers, was third with a 69. Don Pooley, who birdied two of his three holes, and Andy Bean

were next at 70.

A group at 71 included British Open champion Seve Ballesteros of Spain, Jumbo Ozaki of Japan, T.C. Chen of Taiwan, former champion Ben Crenshaw and Tom Purtzer.

Kite, who has won two tournaments and leads the game's money-winners this season, and Watson. A five-time British Open champion, were in a large group at even-par 72.

Nicklaus, 49, the only six-time winner of this event, rallied for a 73.

US Open title-holder Curtis Strange made a triple bogey after he hit into the water on the 12th and joined Australian Greg Norman at 74.

Defending champion Sandy Lyle of Scotland struggled to a 77.

Arnold Palmer, 59, whose four victories in the late 1950's and early 60's helped establish this event as one of golf's big four tournaments, struggled to an 81 in his 35th masters.

IAC shuttle badminton tournament



A view of the audience.



Winners with their trophies.

IN the finals of the IAC badminton tournament George Joseph won (15-7; 15-6) the singles final.

In the Women's singles, Reny John won (11-7; 11-3). In the Men's Doubles, Reji Joseph & Cherry George (15-11; 15-12) won the match.

In Women's Doubles: Reeny Tharian & Suja Varghese won (15-7; 15-4) and in mixed doubles Susan Jacob & Cherry George won (12-15; 15-12; 15-7).

In Couple's Doubles: Suja Varghese & Varghese Joseph won (15-8; 15-8) and in veteran's Singles, Bal Sharma won (15-10; 15-8).

In Boy's (Junior) Singles: San-

jay Sharma won (15-3; 15-9).

The finals of the tournament were played at 6.30 p.m. at the I.A.C. courts, Funaites. On Thursday after the tournament the prize distribution took place.

Babu Vadakkanethu welcomed the large gathering as well as the chief guest.

Chief guest Mr Mubarak Al Amiri, a well wisher and strong supporter of IAC, gave away the prizes to the finalists, winners and runner-ups. Also compliments were given to all the members of the tournament committee as well as to those members who have rendered extra services to conduct this

tournament. These compliments were donated by ATC Ltd and Lipton Tea Company.

IAC honorary president congratulated the winners and said that IAC may conduct an "All Gulf Shuttle Badminton Tournament 1989" later this year. He appreciated and pointed out the services rendered especially by the tournament committee in making this tournament a grand success.

The tournament was sponsored by Jashanmal & Partners and P.K. Merwah with additional prizes offered by Sportsman Co. (Adidas).

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